

Selections
for
Responsive Reading

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Selections for Responsive Reading

ARRANGED WITH PROPER REFERENCE TO LEADERSHIP
AND RESPONSIVENESS BETWEEN

Minister and Congregation

BY

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PREFACE.

This Series of Responsive Readings is distinguished by two features. Throughout the series the leading thoughts are carefully assigned to the minister, and the portions given to the congregation are true responses to the sentiments advanced by him. This arrangement of parts is based on the liturgical principle, which makes the people in public worship responsive to the pastor. New themes, sudden changes of thought, and as far as possible minor suggestions proceed from him, and the congregation echoes the sentiment, or emphasizes it by assent or by setting up a contrast, or adds a closely related thought.

The Responsive Readings hitherto proposed have usually given the verses alternately to minister and congregation or divided the verses according to parallelism. Each of these methods involves serious infelicities. Reading by alternate verses often inverts the proper relation between leader and people. The verses fall to the one or the other without reference to responsiveness. No close or fixed relation of the parties is maintained, and the reading, which should be responsive, degenerates into an alternate reading, which through its unresponsiveness sometimes becomes painfully confusing.

Following the parallelisms, while less objectionable in this regard, introduces, under the rapid alternation of

short sentences, a staccato movement, which, when too freely indulged, detracts from the dignity and stateliness of public worship. A worse fault is that the utterances of the minister are often so incomplete as to be meaningless.

There seems to be no good reason for closely adhering to either of these plans. Verse divisions have no authority above that of convenience, and the common impression, that by following the parallelisms we are adopting the original responses of the Hebrew choirs in the temple service, is probably erroneous. The strophic divisions may have had quite as much to do with the choir responses.

For our purpose we secure a better result when we pass freely from parallelism to verse division, restrained neither by the one nor the other, but carefully seeking to distinguish the leading thought by giving it to the minister, while the congregation returns an answering thought. Once released from traditional bonds we are surprised to find how readily the psalms lend themselves to our purpose; what emphasis is given to important utterances by the echoes of the congregation; and to what extent the meaning and beauty of passages are brought out by the comments of the people. The instances in which a psalm does not yield to the method are exceedingly rare, though some psalms may require to be gone over many times, and the text subjected to a critical study before a satisfactory result can be secured. That this first attempt at such revision has involved protracted labor needs not to be said. I shall be rewarded if the result shall seem to the churches worth the effort, and if a more intelligent and more worship-

ful because truly responsive reading shall date from the introduction of this series.

I have retained in this work, for the most part, those groupings of the psalms and other scriptures into Selections, which were adopted in the Responsive Readings published in my American Book of Church Services. The same headings are used for single selections and for groups of selections. These have been found convenient aids to the pastor in his search for a reading appropriate to the occasion. The Index enables one to find under what selection a psalm or other scripture may be found.

The Strophic Divisions have been fixed by comparison of authorities, Delitzsch, Cheyne, Tholuck, DèWette and some others. As there is disagreement among authors in regard to the placing of strophic divisions, I have as a rule accepted none that were not sanctioned by at least two authorities. In many instances there is a general agreement.

The word "Lord" for Jehovah is, in this work, printed always in *lower case* because full faced type is not provided with small caps. To distinguish this use of the word from its use for Adon or Adonai, all instances of the latter use are marked by spacing thus, Lord. All interested in the matter will please note this necessary deviation from the usual practice.

Stars in the text show omissions.

The mark + at the bottom of a page shows that a strophic division falls there. Elsewhere such divisions are indicated by wider spacing.

EDWARD HUNGERFORD.

BURLINGTON, VT., May 3d, 1893.



Selections for Responsive Reading.

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

FIRST SELECTION.

God provides.

Ps. 104. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, thou art very great ;

Thou art clothed with honor and majesty.

Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment ;

Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain :

Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters ;

Who maketh the clouds his chariot ;

Who walketh upon the wings of the wind :

Who maketh the winds his messengers ;

His ministers a flaming fire :

Who laid the foundations of the earth,

That it should not be moved forever.

Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a vesture ;

The waters stood above the mountains.

At thy rebuke they fled ;

At the voice of thy thunder they hasted away ;

**They went up by the mountains, they went down by the
valleys,**

Unto the place which thou hadst founded for them.

Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over ;

That they turn not again to cover the earth.

He sendeth forth springs into the valleys ;

They run among the mountains :

They give drink to every beast of the field ;

The wild asses quench their thirst.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

By them the fowl of the heaven have their habitation,
They sing among the branches.

He watereth the mountains from his chambers :
The earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle,
And herb for the service of man ;
That he may bring forth food out of the earth ;
And wine that maketh glad the heart of man,
And oil to make his face to shine,
And bread that strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the Lord are satisfied ;
The cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted ;
Where the birds make their nests :
As for the stork, the fir trees are her house.

The high mountains are for the wild goats ;
The rocks are a refuge for the conies.

He appointed the moon for seasons :
The sun knoweth his going down.
Thou makest darkness, and it is night ;
Wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.

The young lions roar after their prey,
And seek their meat from God.
The sun ariseth, they get them away,
And lay them down in their dens.

Man goeth forth unto his work
And to his labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works !
In wisdom hast thou made them all :
The earth is full of thy riches.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
Wherein are things creeping innumerable,
Both small and great beasts.

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

There go the ships ; there is leviathan, whom thou hast
formed to take his pastime therein.

These wait all upon thee,
That thou mayest give them their meat in due season.

That thou givest unto them they gather ;
Thou openest thy hand, they are satisfied with good.

Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled ;
Thou takest away their breath, they die,
And return to their dust.

Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created ;
And thou renewest the face of the ground.

Let the glory of the Lord endure forever ;
Let the Lord rejoice in his works :

Who looketh on the earth, and it trembleth ;
He toucheth the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live :
I will sing praise to my God while I have any being.

SECOND SELECTION.

Nature and the Law.

Ps. 19. The heavens declare the glory of God ;
And the firmament showeth his handy-work.

Day unto day uttereth speech,
And night unto night showeth knowledge.

There is no speech nor language ;
Their voice cannot be heard.

Their line is gone out through all the earth,
And their words to the end of the world.

In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
And rejoiceth as a strong man to run his course.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

His going forth is from the end of the heaven,
And his circuit unto the ends of it :

And there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul :
The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart:
The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever :
The judgments of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold :
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is thy servant warned :
In keeping of them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors ?
Clear thou me from hidden faults.
Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins ;
Let them not have dominion over me : then shall I be perfect,
And I shall be clear from great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight,
O Lord, my rock, and my redeemer.

THIRD SELECTION.

Universal Dependence on God.

Ps. 67. God be merciful unto us, and bless us,
And cause his face to shine upon us ;
That thy way may be known upon earth,
Thy saving health among all nations.

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Let the peoples praise thee, O God ;
Let all the peoples praise thee.

O let the nations be glad and sing for joy :
For thou shalt judge the peoples with equity,
And govern the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise thee, O God ;
Let all the peoples praise thee.

The earth hath yielded her increase :
God, even our own God, shall bless us.
God shall bless us ;
And all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Ps. 65. Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion :
And unto thee shall the vow be performed.
O thou that hearest prayer,
Unto thee shall all flesh come.

Iniquities prevail against me :
As for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.

Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to
approach unto thee,
That he may dwell in thy courts :
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house,
The holy place of thy temple.

By terrible things thou wilt answer us in righteousness,
O God of our salvation ;
Thou that art the confidence of all the ends of the earth,
And of them that are afar off upon the sea:

Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains ;
Being girded about with might :
Which stilleth the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their
waves,
And the tumult of the peoples.

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at
thy tokens :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening
to rejoice.

Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it,
Thou greatly enrichest it ;

The river of God is full of water :

Thou providest them corn, when thou hast so prepared the
earth.

Thou waterest her furrows abundantly ;
Thou settlest the ridges thereof :

Thou makest it soft with showers ;

Thou blessest the springing thereof.

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness ;
And thy paths drop fatness.

They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness :

And the hills are girded with joy.

The pastures are clothed with flocks ;
The valleys also are covered over with corn ;

They shout for joy, they also sing.

FOURTH SELECTION.

God Glorified in Nature and in Man.

Ps. 8. O Lord, our Lord,
How excellent is thy name in all the earth !

Who hast set thy glory upon the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou es-
tablished strength,

Because of thine adversaries,

That thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
The moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained ;

What is man, that thou art mindful of him ?

And the son of man, that thou visitest him ?

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

For thou hast made him but little lower than God,
And crownest him with glory and honor.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of
thy hands ;

Thou hast put all things under his feet :

All sheep and oxen,

Yea, and the beasts of the field ;

The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea,

Whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord,

How excellent is thy name in all the earth.

Ps. 29. Give unto the Lord, O ye sons of the mighty,
Give unto the Lord glory and strength.

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name ;

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters :

The God of glory thundereth,

Even the Lord upon many waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful ;

The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars ;

Yea, the Lord breaketh in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

He maketh them also to skip like a calf ;

Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild-ox.

The voice of the Lord cleaveth the flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness ;

The Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to calve,

And strippeth the forests bare :

And in his temple every thing saith, Glory.

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RESPONSIVE READINGS.

The Lord sat as king at the Flood ;
Yea, the Lord sitteth as king for ever.

**The Lord will give strength unto his people ;
The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

FIFTH SELECTION.

The God of Jacob Contrasted with Idols.

Ps. 114. When Israel went forth out of Egypt,
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language ;
**Judah became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.**

The sea saw it, and fled ;
Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams,
The little hills like young sheep.

What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleest ?
Thou Jordan, that thou turnest back ?

Ye mountains, that ye skip like rams ;
Ye little hills, like young sheep ?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord,
At the presence of the God of Jacob ;
**Which turned the rock into a pool of water,
The flint into a fountain of waters.**

Ps. 115. Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us,
But unto thy name give glory,
For thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Wherefore should the nations say,
Where is now their God ?
**But our God is in the heavens :
He hath done whatsoever he pleased**

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

Their idols are silver and gold,
The work of men's hands.

**They have mouths, but they speak not ;
Eyes have they, but they see not ;**

They have ears, but they hear not ;
Noses have they, but they smell not ;
**They have hands, but they handle not ;
Feet have they, but they walk not ;
Neither speak they through their throat.**

They that make them shall belike unto them ;
Yea, every one that trusteth in them.

O Israel, trust thou in the Lord :
He is their help and their shield.

O house of Aaron, trust ye in the Lord :
He is their help and their shield.

Ye that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord :
He is their help and their shield.

The Lord hath been mindful of us ; he will bless us :
He will bless the house of Israel ;
He will bless the house of Aaron.
**He will bless them that fear the Lord,
Both small and great.**

The Lord increase you more and more,
You and your children.
**Blessed are ye of the Lord,
Which made heaven and earth.**

The heavens are the heavens of the Lord ;
But the earth hath he given to the children of men.

The dead praise not the Lord,
Neither any that go down into silence ;

But we will bless the Lord,
From this time forth and for evermore.
Praise ye the Lord.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

SIXTH SELECTION.

God above all Gods.

Ps. 134. Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of
the Lord,

Which by night stand in the house of the Lord.

**Lift up your hands to the sanctuary,
And bless ye the Lord.**

The Lord bless thee out of Zion ;

Even he that made heaven and earth.

Ps. 135. Praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the name of the Lord ;

Praise him, O ye servants of the Lord :

Ye that stand in the house of the Lord,

In the courts of the house of our God.

Praise ye the Lord ; for the Lord is good :

Sing praises unto his name ; for it is pleasant.

For the Lord hath chosen Jacob unto himself,

And Israel for his peculiar treasure.

For I know that the Lord is great,

And that our Lord is above all gods.

Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that hath he done,

In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.

He causeth the vapors to ascend from the ends of the
earth ;

He maketh lightnings for the rain ;

He bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

Who smote the firstborn of Egypt,

Both of man and beast.

He sent signs and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt,

Upon Pharaoh, and upon all his servants.

Who smote many nations, and slew mighty kings ;

Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan,

And all the kingdoms of Canaan :

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

And gave their land for an heritage,
An heritage unto Israel his people.

Thy name, O Lord, endureth forever ;
Thy memorial, O Lord, throughout all generations.
For the Lord shall judge his people,
And repent himself concerning his servants.

The idols of the nations are silver and gold,
The work of men's hands.
They have mouths, but they speak not ;
Eyes have they, but they see not ;

They have ears, but they hear not ;
Neither is there any breath in their mouths.
They that make them shall be like unto them ;
Yea, every one that trusteth in them.

O house of Israel, bless ye the Lord :
O house of Aaron, bless ye the Lord :
O house of Levi, bless ye the Lord :
Ye that fear the Lord, bless ye the Lord.

Blessed be the Lord out of Zion,
Who dwelleth at Jerusalem.
Praise ye the Lord.

SEVENTH SELECTION.

Mercy to Rebellious Israel.

Ps. 106. Praise ye the Lord.
O give thanks unto the Lord ; for he is good :
For his mercy endureth forever.

Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord,
Or show forth all his praise ?

Blessed are they that keep judgment.
And he that doeth righteousness at all times.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Remember me, O Lord, with the favor that thou bearest unto thy people ;

O visit me with thy salvation :

That I may see the prosperity of thy chosen,
That I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation,
That I may glory with thine inheritance.

We have sinned with our fathers,
We have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt ;
They remembered not the multitude of thy mercies ;
But were rebellious at the sea, even at the Red Sea.

Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake,
That he might make his mighty power to be known.
He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was dried up :
So he led them through the depths, as through a wilderness.

And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them,
And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

And the waters covered their adversaries :
There was not one of them left.
Then believed they his words ;
They sang his praise.

They soon forgot his works ;
They waited not for his counsel :
But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness,
And tempted God in the desert.

And he gave them their request ;
But sent leanness into their soul.

They envied Moses also in the camp,
And Aaron the saint of the Lord.
The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan,
And covered the company of Abiram.

And a fire was kindled in their company ;
The flame burned up the wicked.

They made a calf in Horeb,
And worshipped a molten image.
Thus they changed their glory
For the likeness of an ox that eateth grass.

They forgot God their saviour,
Which had done great things in Egypt ;
Wondrous works in the land of Ham,
And terrible things by the Red Sea.
Therefore he said that he would destroy them,
Had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach,
To turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.

Yea, they despised the pleasant land,
They believed not his word ;
But murmured in their tents,
And hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.

Therefore he lifted up his hand unto them,
That he would overthrow them in the wilderness :
And that he would overthrow their seed among the na-
tions,
And scatter them in the lands.

They joined themselves also unto Baal-peor,
And ate the sacrifices of the dead.
Thus they provoked him to anger with their doings ;
And the plague brake in upon them.

Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment :
And so the plague was stayed.
And that was counted unto him for righteousness,
Unto all generations for evermore.

They angered him also at the waters of Meribah,
So that it went ill with Moses for their sakes :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**Because they were rebellious against his spirit,
And he spake unadvisedly with his lips.**

They did not destroy the peoples,
As the Lord commanded them ;
But mingled themselves with the nations,
And learned their works :

**And they served their idols ;
Which became a snare unto them :**

Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto
demons,
And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons
and of their daughters,

**Whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan ;
And the land was polluted with blood.**

Thus were they defiled with their works,
And went a whoring in their doings.

Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against
his people,
And he abhorred his inheritance.

And he gave them into the hand of the nations ;
And they that hated them ruled over them.

**Their enemies also oppressed them,
And they were brought into subjection under their hand.**

Many times did he deliver them ;
But they were rebellious in their counsel,
And were brought low in their iniquity.

Nevertheless he regarded their distress, when he heard
their cry :

And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented
according to the multitude of his mercies.

**He made them also to be pitied
Of all those that carried them captives.**

Save us, O Lord our God,

GOD IN NATURE AND IN HISTORY.

And gather us from among the nations,
To give thanks unto thy holy name,
And to triumph in thy praise.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
From everlasting even to everlasting.
And let all the people say, Amen.
Praise ye the Lord.

DIDACTIC.

EIGHTH SELECTION.

Prosperity of the Righteous.

Ps. 1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor standeth in the way of sinners,
Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord ;
And in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water,
That bringeth forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also doth not wither ;
And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The wicked are not so ;
But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous :
But the way of the wicked shall perish.

Ps. 112. Praiseye the Lord.
Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord,
That delighteth greatly in his commandments.
His seed shall be mighty upon earth :
The generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in his house :
And his righteousness endureth forever.

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness :
He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

Well is it with the man that dealeth graciously and lendeth ;

He shall maintain his cause in judgment.
For he shall never be moved ;
The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.

He shall not be afraid of evil tidings :
His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.
His heart is established, he shall not be afraid,
Until he see his desire upon his adversaries.

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the needy ;
His righteousness endureth for ever :
His horn shall be exalted with honor.

The wicked shall see it, and be grieved ;
He shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away ;
The desire of the wicked shall perish.

Ps. 26. Judge me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine integrity :

I have trusted also in the Lord without wavering

Examine me, O Lord, and prove me ;
Try my reins and my heart.
For thy loving kindness is before mine eyes ;
And I have walked in thy truth.

I have not sat with vain persons ;
Neither will I go in with dissemblers.
I hate the congregation of evil-doers,
And will not sit with the wicked.

I will wash mine hands in innocency ;
So will I compass thine altar, O Lord :
That I may make the voice of thanksgiving to be heard,
And tell of all thy wondrous works.

Lord, I love the habitation of thy house,
And the place where thy glory dwelleth.

Gather not my soul with sinners,
Nor my life with men of blood :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**In whose hands are mischief,
And their right hand is full of bribes.**

But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity :
Redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

**My foot standeth in an even place :
In the congregations will I bless the Lord.**

NINTH SELECTION.

The Righteous Accepted.

Ps. 34. I will bless the Lord at all times :
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**My soul shall make her boast in the Lord :
The meek shall hear thereof, and be glad.**

O magnify the Lord with me,
And let us exalt his name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
And delivered me from all my fears.

**They looked unto him, and were lightened :
And their faces shall never be confounded.**

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him,
And saved him out of all his troubles.

**The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that
fear him,
And delivereth them.**

O taste and see that the Lord is good :
Blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye his saints :
For there is no want to them that fear him.

**The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger :
But they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.**

Come, ye children, hearken unto me :
I will teach you the fear of the Lord,

What man is he that desireth life,
And loveth many days, that he may see good?

Keep thy tongue from evil,
And thy lips from speaking guile.

Depart from evil, and do good ;

Seek peace, and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous,
And his ears are open unto their cry.

The face of the Lord is against them that do evil,
To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cried, and the Lord heard,
And delivered them out of all their troubles.

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart,
And saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous :
But the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

He keepeth all his bones :
Not one of them is broken.

Evil shall slay the wicked :
And they that hate the righteous shall be condemned.

The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants :
And none of them that trust in him shall be condemned.

Ps. 15. Lord, who shall sojourn in thy tabernacle ?
Who shall dwell in thy holy hill ?

He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness,
And speaketh truth in his heart.

He that slandereth not with his tongue,
Nor doeth evil to his friend,
Nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor.

In whose eyes a reprobate is despised ;
But he honoreth them that fear the Lord.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.
He that putteth not out his money to usury,
Nor taketh reward against the innocent.

He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Ps. 117. O praise the Lord, all ye nations ;
Laud him, all ye peoples.

**For his mercy is great toward us ;
And the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.
Praise ye the Lord.**

TENTH SELECTION.

Riches a Vain Trust.

Ps. 52. Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O
mighty man ?

The mercy of God endureth continually.

**Thy tongue deviseth very wickedness ;
Like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.**

Thou lovest evil more than good ;
And lying rather than to speak righteousness.

**Thou lovest all devouring words,
O thou deceitful tongue.**

God shall likewise destroy thee forever,

**He shall take thee up, and pluck thee out of thy tent,
And root thee out of the land of the living.**

The righteous also shall see it, and fear,
And shall laugh at him, saying,

Lo, this is the man that made not God his strength ;
**But trusted in the abundance of his riches,
And strengthened himself in his wickedness.**

But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in the house
of God :

I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

I will give thee thanks for ever, because thou hast done it :

And I will wait on thy name, for it is good, in the presence of thy saints.

Ps. 49. Hear this, all ye peoples ;
Give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world :
Both low and high, rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak wisdom ;
And the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

I will incline mine ear to a parable :
I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil,
When iniquity at my heels compasseth me about ?

They that trust in their wealth,
And boast themselves in the multitude of their riches,
None of them can by any means redeem his brother,
Nor give to God a ransom for him :
(For the redemption of their soul is costly,
And must be let alone for ever :)

That he should still live alway,
That he should not see corruption.
For he seeth that wise men die,
The fool and the brutish together perish,
And leave their wealth to others.

Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever,
And their dwelling places to all generations ;
They call their lands after their own names.
But man abideth not in honor :
He is like the beasts that perish.

This their way is their folly :
Yet after them men approve their sayings.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

They are appointed as a flock for Sheol ;
Death shall be their shepherd :

And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning ;

And their beauty shall be for Sheol to consume, that there be no habitation for it.

But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol :
For he shall receive me.

Be not thou afraid when one is made rich,
When the glory of his house is increased :

For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away ;
His glory shall not descend after him.

Though while he lived he blessed his soul,
And men praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself,
He shall go to the generation of his fathers ;
They shall never see the light.

Man that is in honor, and understandeth not,
Is like the beasts that perish.

ELEVENTH SELECTION.

Evil Words of the Ungodly Avenged.

Ps. 64. Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint :
Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

Hide me from the secret counsel of evil-doers ;
From the tumult of the workers of iniquity :

Who have whet their tongue like a sword,
And have aimed their arrows, even bitter words :
That they may shoot in secret places at the perfect :

Suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.

They encourage themselves in an evil purpose ;
They commune of laying snares privily ;
They say, Who shall see them ?

They search out iniquities ; We have accomplished, say
they, a diligent search :

And the inward thought of every one, and the heart, is
deep.

But God shall shoot at them ;
With an arrow suddenly shall they be wounded.
So they shall be made to stumble, their own tongue being
against them :
All that see them shall wag the head.

And all men shall fear ;
And they shall declare the work of God,
And shall wisely consider of his doing.
The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and shall trust in
him ;
And all the upright in heart shall glory.

Ps. 12. Help, Lord ; for the godly man ceaseth ;
For the faithful fail from among the children of men.
They speak vanity every one with his neighbor :
With flattering lip, and with a double heart do they speak.

The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips,
The tongue that speaketh great things :
Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail,
Our lips are our own : who is lord over us ?

For the spoiling of the poor, for the sighing of the
needy,
Now will I arise, saith the Lord ;
I will set him in safety at whom they puff.

The words of the Lord are pure words ;
As silver tried in a furnace on the earth,
Purified seven times.

Thou shalt keep them, O Lord,
Thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.
The wicked walk on every side.
When vileness is exalted among the sons of men.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

TWELFTH SELECTION.

Evil-doers not to be Envied.

Ps. 37. Fret not thyself because of evil-doers,
Neither be thou envious against them that work un-
righteousness.

For they shall soon be cut down like the grass,
And wither as the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good , .
Dwell in the land, and follow after faithfulness.

Delight thyself also in the Lord ;
And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Commit thy way unto the Lord ;
Trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass.

And he shall make thy righteousness to go forth as the
light,
And thy judgment as the noonday.

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him :
Fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his
way,
Because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to
pass.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath :
Fret not thyself, it tendeth only to evil-doing.

For evil-doers shall be cut off :
But those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit
the land.

For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be :
Yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and he shall
not be.

But the meek shall inherit the land ;
And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

The wicked plotteth against the just,
And gnasheth upon him with his teeth.

The Lord shall laugh at him :
For he seeth that his day is coming.

The wicked have drawn out the sword and have bent
their bow ;
To cast down the poor and needy,
To slay such as be upright in the way :
Their sword shall enter into their own heart,
And their bows shall be broken.

Better is a little that the righteous hath
Than the abundance of many wicked.
For the arms of the wicked shall be broken :
But the Lord upholdeth the righteous.

The Lord knoweth the days of the perfect :
And their inheritance shall be for ever.
They shall not be ashamed in the time of evil :
And in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

But the wicked shall perish,
And the enemies of the Lord shall be as the excellency
of the pastures :
They shall consume ; in smoke shall they consume away.

The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again :
But the righteous dealeth graciously, and giveth.

For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the land ;
And they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.

A man's goings are established of the Lord ;
And he delighteth in his way.
Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down :
For the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.

I have been young, and now am old ;
Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken,
Nor his seed begging their bread.
All the day long he dealeth graciously, and lendeth ;
And his seed is blessed.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Depart from evil, and do good ;
And dwell for evermore.

For the Lord loveth judgment,
And forsaketh not his saints ;

They are preserved for ever :
But the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

The righteous shall inherit the land,
And dwell therein for ever.

The mouth of the righteous talketh wisdom,
And his tongue speaketh judgment.

The law of his God is in his heart ;
None of his steps shall slide.

The wicked watcheth the righteous,
And seeketh to slay him.

The Lord will not leave him in his hand,
Nor condemn him when he is judged.

Wait on the Lord, and keep his way,
And he shall exalt thee to inherit the land :
When the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

I have seen the wicked in great power,
And spreading himself like a green tree in its native
soil.

But one passed by, and, lo, he was not :
Yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright :
For the latter end of that man is peace.

As for transgressors, they shall be destroyed together :
The latter end of the wicked shall be cut off.

But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord :
He is their stronghold in the time of trouble.
And the Lord helpeth them, and rescueth them :

He reseneth them from the wicked, and saveth them,
Because they have taken refuge in him.

THIRTEENTH SELECTION.

Deniers of God Rejected.

Ps. 53. The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity ;
There is none that doeth good.

God looked down from heaven upon the children of
men,
To see if there were any that did understand,
That did seek after God.

Every one of them is gone back ; they are together become
filthy ;
There is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge ?
Who eat up my people as they eat bread,
And call not upon God.

There were they in great fear, where no fear was :
For God hath scattered the bones of him that encamp-
eth against thee ;
Thou hast put them to shame, because God hath rejected
them.

Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion !
When God bringeth back the captivity of his people,
Then shall Jacob rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

Ps. 36. The transgression of the wicked saith within
my heart,
There is no fear of God before his eyes.
For he flattereth himself in his own eyes,
That his iniquity shall not be found out and be hated.

The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit :
He hath left off to be wise and to do good.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

He deviseth iniquity upon his bed ;
He setteth himself in a way that is not good ;
He abhorreth not evil.

Thy lovingkindness, O Lord, is in the heavens ;
Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the skies.
Thy righteousness is like the mountains of God ;
Thy judgments are a great deep :
O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.

How precious is thy lovingkindness, O God !
And the children of men take refuge under the shadow of
thy wings.

They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of
thy house ;
And thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

For with thee is the fountain of life :
In thy light shall we see light.

O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know
thee ;
And thy righteousness to the upright in heart.

Let not the foot of pride come against me,
And let not the hand of the wicked drive me away.

There are the workers of iniquity fallen :
They are thrust down, and shall not be able to rise.

FOURTEENTH SELECTION.

The End of Sinners Learned in the Sanctuary.

Ps. 73. Surely God is good to Israel,
Even to such as are pure in heart.
But as for me, my feet were almost gone ;
My steps had well nigh slipped.

For I was envious at the arrogant,
When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**For there are no bands in their death :
But their strength is firm.**

They are not in trouble as other men ;
Neither are they plagued like other men.

**Therefore pride is as a chain about their neck ;
Violence covereth them as a garment.**

Their eyes stand out with fatness :
They have more than heart could wish.

**They scoff, and in wickedness utter oppression :
They speak loftily.**

They have set their mouth in the heavens,
And their tongue walketh through the earth.

**Therefore his people return hither :
And waters of a full cup are wrung out by them.**

And they say, How doth God know ?
And is there knowledge in the Most High ?

**Behold, these are the wicked ;
And, being alway at ease, they increase in riches.**

Surely in vain have I cleansed my heart,
And washed my hands in innocency ;

**For all the day long have I been plagued,
And chastened every morning.**

If I had said, I will speak thus ;

**Behold, I had dealt treacherously with the generation of
thy children.**

When I thought how I might know this,
It was too painful for me ;

Until I went into the sanctuary of God,
And considered their latter end.

**Surely thou settest them in slippery places :
Thou castest them down to destruction.**

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RESPONSIVE READINGS.

How are they become a desolation in a moment ?
They are utterly consumed with terrors.

As a dream when one awaketh ;

So, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise
their image.

For my heart was grieved,
And I was pricked in my reins :

So brutish was I, and ignorant ;
I was as a beast before thee.

Nevertheless I am continually with thee :
Thou hast holden my right hand.

Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel,
And afterward receive me to glory.

Whom have I in heaven but thee ?
And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

My flesh and my heart faileth :

But God is the strength of my heart and my portion for
ever.

For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish :
Thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.

But it is good for me to draw near unto God :

I have made the Lord God my refuge,
That I may tell of all thy works.

FIFTEENTH SELECTION.

God Judges Unjust Judges.

Ps. 82. God standeth in the congregation of God ;
He judgeth among the gods.

How long will ye judge unjustly,
And respect the persons of the wicked ?

Judge the poor and fatherless :

Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.

Rescue the poor and needy :
Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.

They know not, neither do they understand ;
They walk to and fro in darkness :
All the foundations of the earth are moved.

I said, Ye are gods,
And all of you sons of the Most High.
Nevertheless ye shall die like men,
And fall like one of the princes.

Arise, O God, judge the earth :
For thou shalt inherit all the nations.

Ps. 75. We give thanks unto thee, O God ;
We give thanks, for thy name is near :
Men tell of thy wondrous works.

When I shall find the set time,
I will judge uprightly.
The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved:
I have set up the pillars of it.

I said unto the arrogant, Deal not arrogantly :
And to the wicked, Lift not up the horn :
Lift not up your horn on high ;
Speak not with a stiff neck.

For neither from the east, nor from the west,
Nor yet from the south, cometh lifting up.
But God is the judge :

He putteth down one, and lifteth up another.

For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the
wine foameth ;

It is full of mixture, and he poureth out of the same :
Surely the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall
wring them out, and drink them.

But I will declare for ever,
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off ;
 But the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

SIXTEENTH SELECTION.

God Sees the Doings of Evil Men.

Ps. 94. O Lord, thou God to whom vengeance be-
 longeth,
Thou God to whom vengeance belongeth, shine forth.
 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth :

Render to the proud their desert.
 Lord, how long shall the wicked,
 How long shall the wicked triumph ?

They prate, they speak arrogantly :
All the workers of iniquity boast themselves.
 They break in pieces thy people, O Lord,
 And afflict thine heritage.

They slay the widow and the stranger,
And murder the fatherless.
 And they say, The Lord shall not see,
 Neither shall the God of Jacob consider.

Consider, ye brutish among the people :
 And ye fools, when will ye be wise ?

He that planted the ear, shall he not hear ?
 He that formed the eye, shall he not see ?

He that chastiseth the nations, shall not he correct,
Even he that teacheth men knowledge ?
 The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man,
 That they are vanity.

Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord,
And teachest out of thy law ;
 That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity,
 Until the pit be digged for the wicked.

DIDACTIC.

For the Lord will not cast off his people,
Neither will he forsake his inheritance.

For judgment shall return unto righteousness :
And all the upright in heart shall follow it.

Who will rise up for me against the evil-doers ?
Who will stand up for me against the workers of
iniquity ?

Unless the Lord had been my help,
My soul had soon dwelt in silence.

When I said, My foot slippeth ;
Thy mercy, O Lord, held me up.

In the multitude of my thoughts within me
Thy comforts delight my soul.

Shall the throne of wickedness have fellowship with
thee,

Which frameth mischief by statute ?

They gather themselves together against the soul of the
righteous,

And condemn the innocent blood.

But the Lord hath been my high tower ;

And my God the rock of my refuge.

And he hath brought upon them their own iniquity,
And shall cut them off in their own evil ;

The Lord our God shall cut them off.

SEVENTEENTH SELECTION.

It is Good to Worship the Most High.

Ps. 92. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the
Lord,

And to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High :

To show forth thy lovingkindness in the morning,

And thy faithfulness every night,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

With an instrument of ten strings, and with the
psaltery ;

With a solemn sound upon the harp.

For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy work :

I will triumph in the works of thy hands.

How great are thy works, O Lord !

Thy thoughts are very deep.

A brutish man knoweth not ;

Neither doth a fool understand this.

When the wicked spring as the grass,

And when all the workers of iniquity do flourish ;

It is that they shall be destroyed for ever :

But thou, O Lord, art on high for evermore.

For, lo, thine enemies, O Lord,

For, lo, thine enemies shall perish ;

All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

But my horn hast thou exalted like the horn of the
wild-ox : I am anointed with fresh oil.

Mine eye also hath seen my desire on mine enemies,

Mine ears have heard my desire of the evil-doers that rise
up against me.

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree :

He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They that are planted in the house of the Lord

Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age ;

They shall be full of sap and green :

To show that the Lord is upright ;

He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Ps. 93. The Lord reigneth ; he is apparelled with
majesty ;

DIDACTIC.

The Lord is apparelled, he hath girded himself with
strength ;
The world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.
Thy throne is established of old :
Thou art from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
The floods have lifted up their voice ;
The floods lift up their waves.
Above the voices of many waters,
The mighty breakers of the sea,
The Lord on high is mighty.

Thy testimonies are very sure :
Holiness becometh thine house,
O Lord, for evermore.

EIGHTEENTH SELECTION.

The Acceptable Sacrifice.

Ps. 50. God, even God, the Lord, hath spoken,
And called the earth from the rising of the sun unto
the going down thereof.
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God hath shined forth.

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence :
A fire shall devour before him,
And it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

He shall call to the heavens above,
And to the earth, that he may judge his people :
Gather my saints together unto me ;
Those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.
And the heavens shall declare his righteousness ;
For God is judge himself.

Hear, O my people, and I will speak ;
O Israel, and I will testify unto thee :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

I am God, even thy God.
I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices ;
And thy burnt offerings are continually before me.

I will take no bullock out of thy house,
Nor he-goats out of thy folds.
For every beast of the forest is mine,
And the cattle upon a thousand hills.

I know all the fowls of the mountains :
And the wild beasts of the field are mine.
If I were hungry, I would not tell thee :
For the world is mine, and the fullness thereof.

Will I eat the flesh of bulls,
Or drink the blood of goats ?
Offer unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving ;
And pay thy vows unto the Most High :
And call upon me in the day of trouble ;
I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

But unto the wicked God saith,
What hast thou to do to declare my statutes,
And that thou hast taken my covenant in thy mouth ?
Seeing thou hatest instruction,
And castest my words behind thee.

When thou sawest a thief, thou consentedst with him,
And hast been partaker with adulterers.
Thou givest thy mouth to evil,
And thy tongue frameth deceit.

Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother ;
Thou slanderest thine own mother's son.

These things hast thou done, and I kept silence ;
Thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as
thyself :
But I will reprove thee, and set them in order before
thine eyes.

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Now consider this, ye that forget God,
Lest I tear you in pieces,

And there be none to deliver.

Whoso offereth the sacrifice of thanksgiving glorifieth
me ;

And to him that ordereth his conversation aright
Will I show the salvation of God.

NINETEENTH SELECTION.

Ruling in Righteousness.

Ps. 101. I will sing of mercy and judgment :
Unto thee, O Lord, will I sing praises.

I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way :
Oh when wilt thou come unto me ?

I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
I will set no base thing before mine eyes :

I hate the work of them that turn aside ;
It shall not cleave unto me.

A froward heart shall depart from me :
I will know no evil thing.

Whoso privily slandereth his neighbor, him will I
destroy :

Him that hath an high look and a proud heart will I not
suffer.

Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that
they may dwell with me :

He that walketh in a perfect way, he shall minister unto
me.

He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my
house :

He that speaketh falsehood shall not be established before
mine eyes.

Morning by morning will I destroy all the wicked of
the land ;

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

To cut off all the workers of iniquity from the city of the Lord.

Ps. 97. The Lord reigneth ; let the earth rejoice ;
Let the multitude of isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him :

Righteousness and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

A fire goeth before him,
And burneth up his adversaries round about.

His lightnings lightened the world :

The earth saw, and trembled.

The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord,
At the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declare his righteousness,

And all the peoples have seen his glory.

Ashamed be all they that serve graven images,
That boast themselves of idols :

Worship him, all ye gods.

Zion heard and was glad,
And the daughters of Judah rejoiced ;
Because of thy judgments, O Lord.

For thou, Lord, art most high above all the earth :

Thou art exalted far above all gods.

O ye that love the Lord, hate evil :
He preserveth the souls of his saints ;
He delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

Light is sown for the righteous,
And gladness for the upright in heart.

Be glad in the Lord, ye righteous ;

And give thanks to his holy name.

TWENTIETH SELECTION.

Purity by Keeping God's Word.

Ps. 119. Blessed are they that that are perfect in the
way,

Who walk in the law of the Lord.

**Blessed are they that keep his testimonies,
That seek him with the whole heart.**

Yea, they do no unrighteousness ;
They walk in his ways.

**Thou hast commanded us thy precepts,
That we should observe them diligently.**

Oh that my ways were established
To observe thy statutes !

**Then shall I not be ashamed,
When I have respect unto all thy commandments.**

I will give thanks unto thee with uprightness of heart,
When I learn thy righteous judgments.

**I will observe thy statutes :
O forsake me not utterly.**

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way ?
By taking heed thereto according to thy word.

**With my whole heart have I sought thee :
O let me not wander from thy commandments.**

Thy word have I laid up in mine heart,
That I might not sin against thee.

**Blessed art thou, O Lord :
Teach me thy statutes.**

With my lips have I declared
All the judgments of thy mouth.

**I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies,
As much as in all riches.**

I will meditate in thy precepts,
And have respect unto thy ways.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**I will delight myself in thy statutes :
I will not forget thy word.**

Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live ;
So will I observe thy word.

**Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold
Wondrous things out of thy law.**

I am a sojourner in the earth :
Hide not thy commandments from me.

**My soul breaketh for the longing
That it hath unto thy judgments at all times.**

Thou hast rebuked the proud that are cursed,
Which do wander from thy commandments.

**Take away from me reproach and contempt ;
For I have kept thy testimonies.**

Princes also sat and talked against me :
But thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.

**Thy testimonies also are my delight
And my counsellors.**

TWENTY-FIRST SELECTION.

Trust in God's Word.

Thy hands have made me and fashioned me :
Give me understanding, that I may learn thy com-
mandments.

**They that fear thee shall see me and be glad ;
Because I have hoped in thy word.**

I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are righteous,
And that in faithfulness thou hast afflicted me.

**Let, I pray thee, thy lovingkindness be for my comfort,
According to thy word unto thy servant.**

Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live :
For thy law is my delight.

Let the proud be ashamed ; for they have overthrown me
wrongfully :

But I will meditate in thy precepts.

Let those that fear thee turn unto me,
And they shall know thy testimonies.

Let my heart be perfect in thy statutes ;
That I be not ashamed.

My soul fainteth for thy salvation :
But I hope in thy word.

Mine eyes fail for thy word,
While I say, When wilt thou comfort me ?

For I am become like a bottle in the smoke ;
Yet do I not forget thy statutes.

How many are the days of thy servant ?
When wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute
me ?

The proud have digged pits for me,
Who are not after thy law.

All thy commandments are faithful :
They persecute me wrongfully ; help thou me.

They had almost consumed me upon earth ;
But I forsook not thy precepts.

Quicken me after thy lovingkindness ;
So shall I observe the testimony of thy mouth.

For ever, O Lord,
Thy word is settled in heaven.

Thy faithfulness is unto all generations :
Thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.

They abide this day according to thine ordinances ;
For all things are thy servants.

Unless thy law had been my delight,
I should then have perished in mine affliction.

I will never forget thy precepts ;
For with them thou hast quickened me.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**I am thine, save me ;
For I have sought thy precepts.**

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me ;
But I will consider thy testimonies.

**I have seen an end of all perfection ;
But thy commandment is exceeding broad.**

TWENTY-SECOND SELECTION.

Wisdom and Safety by God's Word.

O how love I thy law !
It is my meditation all the day.

**Thy commandments make me wiser than mine enemies ;
For they are ever with me.**

I have more understanding than all my teachers ;
For thy testimonies are my meditation.

**I understand more than the aged,
Because I have kept thy precepts.**

I have refrained my feet from every evil way,
That I might observe thy word.

**I have not turned aside from thy judgments ;
For thou hast taught me.**

How sweet are thy words unto my taste !
Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth !

**Through thy precepts I get understanding :
Therefore I hate every false way.**

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And light unto my path.

**I have sworn, and have confirmed it,
That I will observe thy righteous judgments.**

I am afflicted very much :
Quicken me, O Lord, according unto thy word.

**Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth,
O Lord,
And teach me thy judgments.**

DIDACTIC.

My soul is continually in my hand ;
Yet do I not forget thy law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me ;
Yet went I not astray from thy precepts.

Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever ;
For they are the rejoicing of my heart.

I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes,
For ever, even unto the end.

I hate them that are of a double mind ;
But thy law do I love.

Thou art my hiding place and my shield :
I hope in thy word.

Depart from me, ye evil-doers ;
That I may keep the commandments of my God.

Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live ;
And let me not be ashamed of my hope.

Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe,
And shall have respect unto thy statutes continually.

Thou hast set at nought all them that err from thy statutes ;
For their deceit is falsehood.

Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like
dross :

Therefore I love thy testimonies.

My flesh trembleth for fear of thee :
And I am afraid of thy judgments.

TWENTY-THIRD SELECTION.

Warning Against Enticements of Sinners.

Pr. 1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge :

But the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.

My son, hear the instruction of thy father,
And forsake not the law of thy mother :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

For they shall be a chaplet of grace unto thy head,
And chains about thy neck.

My son, if sinners entice thee,
Consent thou not.

If they say, Come with us,
Let us lay wait for blood,
Let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause ;

Let us swallow them up alive as Sheol,
And whole, as those that go down into the pit.

We shall find all precious substance,
We shall fill our houses with spoil ;
Thou shalt cast thy lot among us ;
We will all have one purse :

My son, walk not thou in the way with them ;
Refrain thy foot from their path :
For their feet run to evil,
And they make haste to shed blood.

For in vain is the net spread,
In the eyes of any bird :
And these lay wait for their own blood,
They lurk privily for their own lives.

So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain ;
It taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

Wisdom crieth aloud in the street ;
She uttereth her voice in the broad places ;
She crieth in the chief place of concourse ;
At the entering in of the gates,
In the city, she uttereth her words :

How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity ?
And scorers delight them in scorning,
And fools hate knowledge ?

Turn you at my reproof :
Behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you,

I will make known my words unto you.

Because I have called, and ye refused ;
I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded ;

**But ye have set at nought all my counsel,
And would none of my reproof :**

I also will laugh in the day of your calamity ;
I will mock when your fear cometh ;

**When your fear cometh as a storm,
And your calamity cometh on as a whirlwind ;
When distress and anguish come upon you.**

Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer ;
They shall seek me diligently, but they shall not find me :

For that they hated knowledge,
And did not choose the fear of the Lord :

**They would none of my counsel ;
They despised all my reproof :**

Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way,
And be filled with their own devices.

**For the backsliding of the simple shall slay them,
And the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.**

But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell securely,
And shall be quiet without fear of evil.

TWENTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

Various Directions of Wisdom.

Pr. 3. My son, forget not my law ;
But let thine heart keep my commandments :

**For length of days, and years of life,
And peace, shall they add to thee.**

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee :
Bind them about thy neck ;
Write them upon the table of thine heart :

**So shalt thou find favor and good understanding
In the sight of God and man.**

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart,
And lean not upon thine own understanding :

**In all thy ways acknowledge him,
And he shall direct thy paths.**

Be not wise in thine own eyes ;
Fear the Lord, and depart from evil :

**It shall be health to thy navel,
And marrow to thy bones.**

Honor the Lord with thy substance,
And with the firstfruits of all thine increase :

**So shall thy barns be filled with plenty,
And thy fats shall overflow with new wine.**

My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord ;
Neither be weary of his reproof :

**For whom the Lord loveth he reproveth ;
Even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.**

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom,
And the man that getteth understanding.

**For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise
of silver,
And the gain thereof than fine gold.**

She is more precious than rubies :
And none of the things thou canst desire are to be compared unto her.

**Length of days is in her right hand ;
In her left hand are riches and honor.**

Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all her paths are peace.

**She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her :
And happy is every one that retaineth her.**

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth ;
By understanding he established the heavens.

**By his knowledge the depths were broken up,
And the skies drop down the dew.**

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My son, let not them depart from thine eyes ;
Keep sound wisdom and discretion ;

So shall they be life unto thy soul,
And grace to thy neck.

Then shalt thou walk in thy way securely,
And thy foot shall not stumble.

When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid :
Yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.

Be not afraid of sudden fear,
Neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh :

For the Lord shall be thy confidence,
And shall keep thy foot from being taken.

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due,
When it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Say not unto thy neighbor, Go, and come again,
And to-morrow I will give ;
When thou hast it by thee.

Devise not evil against thy neighbor,
Seeing he dwelleth securely by thee.

Strive not with a man without cause,
If he have done thee no harm.

Envy thou not the man of violence,
And choose none of his ways,

For the perverse is an abomination to the Lord :
But his secret is with the upright.

The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked ;
But he blesseth the habitation of the righteous.

Surely he scorneth the scorners,
But he giveth grace unto the lowly.

The wise shall inherit glory ;
But shame shall be the promotion of fools.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

TWENTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

The Call of Wisdom.

Pr. 8. Doth not wisdom cry,
And understanding put forth her voice ?

**In the top of high places by the way,
Where the paths meet, she standeth ;
Beside the gates, at the entry of the city,
At the coming in at the doors, she crieth aloud :**

Unto you, O men, I call ;
And my voice is to the sons of men.

**O ye simple, understand subtilty ;
And, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.**

Hear, for I will speak excellent things ;
And the opening of my lips shall be right things.

**For my mouth shall utter truth ;
And wickedness is an abomination to my lips.**

All the words of my mouth are in righteousness ;
There is nothing crooked or perverse in them.

**They are all plain to him that understandeth,
And right to them that find knowledge.**

Receive my instruction, and not silver ;
And knowledge rather than choice gold.

**For wisdom is better than rubies ;
And all the things that may be desired are not to be compared unto her.**

I wisdom have made subtilty my dwelling,
And find out knowledge and discretion.

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil :
**Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way,
And the froward mouth, do I hate.**

Counsel is mine, and sound knowledge :
I am understanding ; I have might.

By me kings reign,
And princes decree justice.

By me princes rule,
And nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

I love them that love me ;
And those that seek me diligently shall find me.

Riches and honor are with me ;
Yea, durable riches and righteousness.

My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold ;
And my revenue than choice silver.

I walk in the way of righteousness,
In the midst of the paths of judgment :

That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance,
And that I may fill their treasures.

The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way,
Before his works of old.

I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning,
Or ever the earth was.

When there were no depths, I was brought forth ;
When there were no fountains abounding with water.

Before the mountains were settled,
Before the hills was I brought forth :
While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields,
Nor the beginning of the dust of the world.

When he established the heavens, I was there :
When he set a circle upon the face of the deep :

When he made firm the skies above :
When the fountains of the deep became strong :

When he gave to the sea its bound,
That the waters should not transgress his command-
ment :

When he marked out the foundations of the earth :

Then I was by him, as a master workman :
And I was daily his delight,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Rejoicing always before him ;
Rejoicing in his habitable earth ;
And my delight was with the sons of men.

Now therefore, my sons, hearken unto me :
For blessed are they that keep my ways.
Hear instruction, and be wise,
And refuse it not.

Blessed is the man that heareth me,
Watching daily at my gates,
Waiting at the posts of my doors.
For whoso findeth me findeth life,
And shall obtain favor of the Lord.

But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul :
All they that hate me love death.

TWENTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

Warning Against Wine and Strong Drink.

Pr. 20. Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler ;
And whosoever erreth thereby is not wise.

Pr. 23. Hear thou, my son, and be wise,
And guide thine heart in the way.
Be not among winebibbers ;
Among gluttonous eaters of flesh :
For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty :
And drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

Who hath woe ? who hath sorrow ? who hath conten-
tions ?

Who hath complaining ? who hath wounds without
cause ?

Who hath redness of eyes ?

They that tarry long at the wine ;
They that go to seek out mixed wine.

Look not thou upon the wine when it is red,
When it giveth its color in the cup,

When it goeth down smoothly :
At the last it biteth like a serpent,
And stingeth like an adder.

Thine eyes shall behold strange things,
And thine heart shall utter froward things.

Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of
the sea,

Or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not
hurt ;

They have beaten me, and I felt it not :

When shall I awake ? I will seek it yet again.

Is. 5. Woe unto them that rise up early in the morn-
ing, that they may follow strong drink ;

That tarry late into the night, till wine inflame them !

And the harp and the lute, the tabret and the pipe, and
wine, are in their feasts :

But they regard not the work of the Lord, neither have
they considered the operation of his hands.

Therefore my people are gone into captivity, for lack of
knowledge :

And their honorable men are famished, and their multi-
tude are parched with thirst.

Therefore hell hath enlarged her desire, and opened her
mouth without measure :

And their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp,
and he that rejoiceth among them, descend into it.

And the mean man is bowed down, and the great man
is humbled,

And the eyes of the lofty are humbled :

But the Lord of hosts is exalted in judgment, and God
the Holy One is sanctified in righteousness.

Then shall the lambs feed as in their pasture, and the
waste places of the fat ones shall wanderers eat.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity,
and sin as it were with a cart rope :

That say, Let him make speed, let him hasten his
work, that we may see it : and let the counsel of the
Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may
know it !

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil ; that
put darkness for light, and light for darkness ;
that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter !

Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent
in their own sight !

Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men
of strength to mingle strong drink :

Which justify the wicked for a reward, and take away the
righteousness of the righteous from him !

Therefore as the tongue of fire devoureth the stubble,
and as the dry grass sinketh down in the flame,
so their root shall be as rottenness, and their
blossom shall go up as dust :

Because they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts,
and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

Therefore is the anger of the Lord kindled against his
people,

And he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and
hath smitten them,

And the hills did tremble, and their carcases were as
refuse in the midst of the streets.

For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is
stretched out still.

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND OF THE MESSIAH.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

Cry of the Forsaken.

Ps. 22. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
Why art thou so far from helping me, and from the
words of my roaring ?

O my God, I cry in the day-time, but thou answerest not ;
And in the night season, and am not silent.

But thou art holy,
O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

Our fathers trusted in thee :

They trusted, and thou didst deliver them.

They cried unto thee, and were delivered :

They trusted in thee, and were not ashamed.

But I am a worm, and no man ;
A reproach of men, and despised of the people.

All they that see me laugh me to scorn :

They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

Commit thyself unto the Lord ; let him deliver him :

Let him deliver him, seeing he delighteth in him.

But thou art he that took me out of the womb :

Thou didst make me trust when I was upon my mother's
breasts.

I was cast upon thee from the womb :

Thou art my God from my mother's belly.

Be not far from me ; for trouble is near ;

For there is none to help.

Many bulls have compassed me .

Strong bulls of Bashan have beset me round.

They gape upon me with their mouth,

As a ravening and a roaring lion.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

I am poured out like water,
And all my bones are out of joint :

My heart is like wax ;

It is melted in the midst of my bowels.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd ;
And my tongue cleaveth to my jaws ;
And thou hast brought me into the dust of death.

For dogs have compassed me :

The assembly of evil-doers have enclosed me ;

They pierced my hands and my feet.

I may tell all my bones ;
They look and stare upon me :

They part my garments among them,

And upon my vesture do they cast lots.

But be not thou far off, O Lord :
O thou my succor, haste thee to help me.

Deliver my soul from the sword ;

My darling from the power of the dog.

Save me from the lion's mouth ;

**Yea, from the horns of the wild-oxen thou hast answered
me.**

I will declare thy name unto my brethren :

In the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

Ye that fear the Lord, praise him ;
All ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him ;

And stand in awe of him, all ye the seed of Israel.

For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of
the afflicted ;

Neither hath he hid his face from him ;

But when he cried unto him, he heard.

Of thee cometh my praise in the great congregation :

I will pay my vows before them that fear him.

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

The meek shall eat and be satisfied :

They shall praise the Lord that seek after him :

Let your heart live for ever.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn unto
the Lord :

And all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before
thee.

For the kingdom is the Lord's :

And he is the ruler over the nations.

All the fat ones of the earth shall eat and worship :

All they that go down to the dust shall bow before him,

Even he that cannot keep his soul alive.

A seed shall serve him ;

It shall be told of the Lord unto the next generation.

They shall come and shall declare his righteousness

Unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done it.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

Cry of the Reviled.

Ps. 69. Save me, O God ;

For the waters are come in unto my soul.

I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing :

I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

I am weary with my crying ; my throat is dried :

Mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

They that hate me without a cause are more than the
hairs of mine head :

They that would cut me off, being mine enemies wrong-
fully, are mighty :

Then I restored that which I took not away.

O God, thou knowest my foolishness ;

And my sins are not hid from thee.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Let not them that wait on thee be ashamed through
me, O Lord God of hosts :

Let not those that seek thee be brought to dishonor
through me, O God of Israel.

Because for thy sake I have borne reproach ;
Shame hath covered my face.

I am become a stranger unto my brethren,
And an alien unto my mother's children.

For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up :
And the reproaches of them that reproach thee are fallen
upon me.

When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting,
That was to my reproach.

When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a proverb unto them.

They that sit in the gate talk of me ;
And I am the song of the drunkards.

But as for me, my prayer is unto thee, O Lord, in an
acceptable time :

O God, in the multitude of thy mercy,
Answer me in the truth of thy salvation.

Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink :
Let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out
of the deep waters.

Let not the waterflood overwhelm me,
Neither let the deep swallow me up ;
And let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

Answer me, O Lord ; for thy lovingkindness is good :
According to the multitude of thy tender mercies turn
thou unto me.

And hide not thy face from thy servant ;
For I am in distress ; answer me speedily.

Draw nigh unto my soul, and redeem it :
Ransom me because of mine enemies.

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

Thou knowest my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonor :

Mine adversaries are all before thee.

Reproach hath broken my heart ; and I am full of heaviness :

And I looked for some to take pity, but there was none ;
And for comforters, but I found none.

They gave me also gall for my meat ;
And in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

But I am poor and sorrowful :

Let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high.

I will praise the name of God with a song,
And will magnify him with thanksgiving.

And it shall please the Lord better than an ox,
Or a bullock that hath horns and hoofs.

The meek have seen it, and are glad :
Ye that seek after God, let your heart live.

For the Lord heareth the needy,
And despiseth not his prisoners.

Let heaven and earth praise him,
The seas, and everything that moveth therein.

For God will save Zion, and build the cities of Judah ;
And they shall abide there, and have it in possession.

The seed also of his servants shall inherit it ;
And they that love his name shall dwell therein.

TWENTY-NINTH SELECTION.

Deserted When Near to Death.

Ps. 88. O Lord, the God of my salvation,
I have cried day and night before thee :
Let my prayer enter into thy presence ;

Incline thine ear unto my cry :
For my soul is full of troubles,
And my life draweth nigh unto Sheol.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

I am counted with them that go down into the pit ;
I am as a man that hath no help :

Cast off among the dead,
Like the slain that lie in the grave,
Whom thou rememberest no more ;
And they are cut off from thy hand.

Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit,
In dark places, in the deeps.
Thy wrath lieth hard upon me,
And thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves.

Thou hast put mine acquaintance far from me ;
Thou hast made me an abomination unto them :
I am shut up, and I cannot come forth.

Mine eye wasteth away by reason of affliction :
I have called daily upon thee, O Lord,
I have spread forth my hands unto thee.

Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead ?
Shall they that are deceased arise and praise thee ?
Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave ?
Or thy faithfulness in Destruction ?

Shall thy wonders be known in the dark ?
And thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness ?

But unto thee, O Lord, have I cried,
And in the morning shall my prayer come before thee.
Lord, why castest thou off my soul ?
Why hidest thou thy face from me ?

I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up :
While I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.
Thy fierce wrath is gone over me ;
Thy terrors have cut me off.

They came round about me like water all the day long ;

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

They compassed me about together.
Lover and friend hast thou put far from me,
And mine acquaintance into darkness.

THIRTIETH SELECTION.

Loneliness in Sorrow.

Ps. 102. Hear my prayer, O Lord,
And let my cry come unto thee.
Hide not thy face from me in the day of my distress ;
Incline thine ear unto me ;
In the day when I call answer me speedily.

For my days consume away like smoke,
And my bones are burned as a firebrand.
My heart is smitten like grass, and withered ;
For I forget to eat my bread.
By reason of the voice of my groaning
My bones cleave to my flesh.

I am like a pelican of the wilderness ;
I am become as an owl of the waste places.
I watch, and am become
Like a sparrow that is alone upon the house-top.
Mine enemies reproach me all the day ;
They that are mad against me do curse by me.

For I have eaten ashes like bread,
And mingled my drink with weeping.
Because of thine indignation and thy wrath :
For thou hast taken me up, and cast me away.
My days are like a shadow that declineth ;
And I am withered like grass.

But thou, O Lord, shalt abide for ever :
And thy memorial unto all generations.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion :
For it is time to have pity upon her, yea, the set time
is come.

For thy servants take pleasure in her stones,
And have pity upon her dust.

So the nations shall fear the name of the Lord,
And all the kings of the earth thy glory :

For the Lord hath built up Zion,
He hath appeared in his glory ;
He hath regarded the prayer of the destitute,
And hath not despised their prayer.

This shall be written for the generation to come :
And a people which shall be created shall praise the Lord.

For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary ;

From heaven did the Lord behold the earth ;

To hear the sighing of the prisoner ;
To loose those that are appointed to death ;

That men may declare the name of the Lord in Zion,
And his praise in Jerusalem ;

When the peoples are gathered together,
And the kingdoms, to serve the Lord.

He weakened my strength in the way ;
He shortened my days.

I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my
days :

Thy years are throughout all generations.

Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth ;
And the heavens are the work of thy hands.

They shall perish, but thou shalt endure :
Yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment ;

As a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be
changed :

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

But thou art the same,
And thy years shall have no end.
The children of thy servants shall continue,
And their seed shall be established before thee.

THIRTY-FIRST SELECTION.

Love Met by Ingratitude.

Ps. 109. Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise ;
For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of deceit
have they opened against me :

They have spoken unto me with a lying tongue.

They compassed me about also with words of hatred,
And fought against me without a cause.

For my love they are my adversaries :
But I give myself unto prayer.

And they have rewarded me evil for good,
And hatred for my love.

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But deal thou with me, O God the Lord, for thy name's
sake :

Because thy mercy is good, deliver thou me,
For I am poor and needy,
And my heart is wounded within me.

I am gone like the shadow when it declineth :
I am tossed up and down as the locust.

My knees are weak through fasting ;
And my flesh faileth of fatness.

I am become also a reproach unto them :
When they see me, they shake their head.

Help me, O Lord my God ;
O save me according to thy mercy :
That they may know that this is thy hand ;
That thou, Lord, hast done it.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Let them curse, but bless thou :
When they arise, they shall be ashamed, but thy servant
shall rejoice.

Let mine adversaries be clothed with dishonor,
And let them cover themselves with their own shame as
with a mantle.

I will give great thanks unto the Lord with my mouth ;
Yea, I will praise him among the multitude.

For he shall stand at the right hand of the needy,
To save him from them that judge his soul.

Ps. 13. How long, O Lord, wilt thou forget me for
ever ?

How long wilt thou hide thy face from me ?

How long shall I take counsel in my soul,
Having sorrow in my heart all the day ?

How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me ?

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God :
Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death ;

Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him ;
Lest mine adversaries rejoice when I am moved.

But I have trusted in thy mercy ;
My heart shall rejoice in thy salvation :

I will sing unto the Lord,
Because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

Ps. 6. O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger,
Neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord ; for I am withered away :
O Lord, heal me ; for my bones are vexed.

My soul also is sore vexed :
And thou, O Lord, how long ?

Return, O Lord, deliver my soul :
Save me for thy lovingkindness' sake.

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

For in death there is no remembrance of thee ;
In Sheol who shall give thee thanks ?

I am weary with my groaning ;
Every night make I my bed to swim ;
I water my couch with my tears.

Mine eye wasteth away because of grief ;
It waxeth old because of all mine adversaries.

Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity ;
For the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hath heard my supplication ;
The Lord will receive my prayer.

All mine enemies shall be ashamed and sore vexed :
They shall turn back, they shall be ashamed suddenly.

THIRTY-SECOND SELECTION.

Despised and Rejected.

Is. 53. Who hath believed our report ?

And to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed ?

For he grew up before him as a tender plant, and as a
root out of a dry ground :

He hath no form nor comeliness ; and when we see him,
there is no beauty that we should desire him.

He was despised, and rejected of men ; a man of sor-
rows, and acquainted with grief :

And as one from whom men hide their face he was de-
spised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sor-
rows :

Yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and
afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was
bruised for our iniquities :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

The chastisement of our peace was upon him ; and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way ;

And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, yet he humbled himself and opened not his mouth ;

As a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb ; yea, he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away ; and as for his generation, who among them considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living ?

For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

And they made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death ; although he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him ; he hath put him to grief :

When thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days,

And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied :

By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many : and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong :

Because he poured out his soul unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors :

Yet he bare the sin of many,

And made intercession for the transgressors.

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

THIRTY-THIRD SELECTION.

Zion's Desolation.

Lam. 1. How doth the city sit solitary, that was full
of people !

How is she become as a widow !

She that was great among the nations, and princess among
the provinces,

How is she become tributary !

She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her
cheeks ;

Among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her :

All her friends have dealt treacherously with her,

They are become her enemies.

Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and
because of great servitude ;

She dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest :

All her persecutors overtook her within the straits.

The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the
solemn assembly ;

All her gates are desolate, her priests do sigh :

Her virgins are afflicted, and she herself is in bitterness.

Her adversaries are become the head, her enemies prosper ;

For the Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her
transgressions :

Her young children are gone into captivity before the
adversary.

And from the daughter of Zion all her majesty is departed :

Her princes are become like harts that find no pasture,

And they are gone without strength before the pursuer.

Jerusalem remembereth in the days of her affliction and
of her miseries

All her pleasant things that were from the days of old :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

When her people fell into the hand of the adversary, and
none did help her,

The adversaries saw her, they did mock at her desolations.

Jerusalem hath grievously sinned ; therefore she is be-
come as an unclean thing :

All that honored her despise her, because they have seen
her nakedness :

Yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.

See, O Lord, and behold ; for I am become vile. *

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by ?

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sor-
row, which is done unto me,

Wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his
fierce anger.

For these things I weep ; mine eye, mine eye runneth
down with water ;

Because the comforter that should refresh my soul is
far from me :

My children are desolate, because the enemy hath pre-
vailed.

Zion spreadeth forth her hands ; there is none to com-
fort her ;

The Lord hath commanded concerning Jacob, that they
that are round about him should be his adversaries :

Jerusalem is among them as an unclean thing.

The Lord is righteous ; for I have rebelled against his
commandment :

Hear, I pray you, all ye peoples, and behold my sorrow :
My virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.

I called for my lovers, but they deceived me :

My priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city,
While they sought them meat to refresh their souls.

Behold, O Lord ; for I am in distress ; my bowels are
troubled ;

SUFFERINGS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

Mine heart is turned within me ; for I have grievously
rebelled :

Abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.

They have heard that I sigh ; there is none to comfort
me ;

**All mine enemies have heard of my trouble ; they are
glad that thou hast done it.**

PENITENTIAL.

THIRTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

On Account of Bloodguiltiness.

Ps. 51. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness :

According to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgressions :
And my sin is ever before me.

Against thee, thee only, have I sinned,
And done that which is evil in thy sight :
That thou mayest be justified when thou speakest,
And be clear when thou judgest.

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity :
And in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts :
And in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean :
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me to hear joy and gladness ;
That the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Hide thy face from my sins,
And blot out all mine iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God ;
And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence ;
And take not thy holy spirit from me.

PENITENTIAL.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation :
And uphold me with a free spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways ;
And sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of
my salvation ;

And my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

O Lord, open thou my lips ;

And my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

For thou delightest not in sacrifice ; else would I give it :
Thou hast no pleasure in burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit :

A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not de-
spise.

Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion :

Build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Then shalt thou delight in the sacrifices of righteous-
ness, in burnt offering and whole burnt offering :

Then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

THIRTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

Relief by Confession.

Ps. 38. O Lord, rebuke me not in thy wrath :
Neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

For thine arrows stick fast in me,
And thy hand presseth me sore.

There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine in-
dignation ;

Neither is there any health in my bones because of my
sin.

For mine iniquities are gone over mine head :
As an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

My wounds stink and are corrupt,
Because of my foolishness.

I am pained and bowed down greatly ;
I go mourning all the day long.

For my loins are filled with burning ;
And there is no soundness in my flesh.

I am faint and sore bruised :
I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.

Lord, all my desire is before thee ;
And my groaning is not hid from thee.

My heart throbberh, my strength faileth me :
As for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my plague ;
And my kinsmen stand afar off.

They also that seek after my life lay snares for me ;
And they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things,
And imagine deceits all the day long.

But I, as a deaf man, hear not ;
And I am as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth.

Yea, I am as a man that heareth not,
And in whose mouth are no reproofs.

For in thee, O Lord, do I hope :
Thou wilt answer, O Lord my God.

For I said, Lest they rejoice over me :
When my foot slippeth, they magnify themselves against
me.

For I am ready to halt,
And my sorrow is continually before me.

For I will declare mine iniquity ;
I will be sorry for my sin.

PENITENTIAL.

But mine enemies are lively, and are strong :
And they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.

**They also that render evil for good
Are adversaries unto me, because I follow the thing that
is good.**

Forsake me not, O Lord :
O my God, be not far from me.

**Make haste to help me,
O Lord my salvation.**

Ps. 32. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not
iniquity,
And in whose spirit there is no guile.**

When I kept silence, my bones waxed old
Through my roaring all the day long.

**For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me :
My moisture was changed as with the drought of summer.**

I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity
have I not hid :

**I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord ;
And thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

For this let every one that is godly pray unto thee in a
time when thou mayest be found :

**Surely when the great waters overflow they shall not
reach unto him.**

Thou art my hiding place ; thou wilt preserve me from
trouble ;

Thou wilt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which
thou shalt go :

I will counsel thee with mine eye upon thee.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding :

Whose trappings must be bit and bridle to hold them in,
Else they will not come near unto thee.

Many sorrows shall be to the wicked :

But he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass
him about.

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous :

And shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

THIRTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

The Penitent Seeks Instruction.

Ps. 25. Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
O my God, in thee have I trusted,

Let me not be ashamed ;

Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Yea, none that wait on thee shall be ashamed :

They shall be ashamed that deal treacherously without
cause.

Shew me thy ways, O Lord ;

Teach me thy paths.

Guide me in thy truth, and teach me ;

For thou art the God of my salvation ;

On thee do I wait all the day.

Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving-
kindnesses :

For they have been ever of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgres-
sions :

According to thy lovingkindness remember thou me,

For thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord :

Therefore will he instruct sinners in the way.

PENITENTIAL.

**The meek will he guide in judgment :
And the meek will he teach his way.**

All the paths of the Lord are lovingkindness and truth
Unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**For thy name's sake, O Lord,
Pardon mine iniquity, for it is great.**

What man is he that feareth the Lord ?
Him shall he instruct in the way that he shall choose.

**His soul shall dwell at ease ;
And his seed shall inherit the land.**

The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him ;
And he will shew them his covenant.

Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord ;
For he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me ;
For I am desolate and afflicted.

**The troubles of my heart are enlarged :
O bring thou me out of my distresses.**

Consider mine affliction and my travail ;
And forgive all my sins.

**Consider mine enemies, for they are many ;
And they hate me with cruel hatred.**

O keep my soul, and deliver me :
Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in thee.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
For I wait on thee.

**Redeem Israel, O God,
Out of all his troubles.**

Ps. 130. Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O
Lord.

Lord, hear my voice :
Let thine ears be attentive
To the voice of my supplications.

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RESPONSIVE READINGS.

If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities,
O Lord, who shall stand ?

But there is forgiveness with thee,
That thou mayest be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait,
And in his word do I hope.

My soul looketh for the Lord,
More than watchmen look for the morning;
Yea, more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord;
For with the Lord there is mercy,
And with him is plenteous redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel
From all his iniquities.

THIRTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

Divine Forgiveness Celebrated.

Ps. 103. Bless the Lord, O my soul;
And all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And forget not all his benefits :

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities ;
Who healeth all thy diseases ;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction ;
Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender
mercies :

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things ;
So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle.

The Lord executeth righteous acts,
And judgments for all that are oppressed.

He made known his ways unto Moses,
His doings unto the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and gracious,

PENITENTIAL,

Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

He will not always chide ;

Neither will he keep his anger for ever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins,

Nor rewarded us after our iniquities.

For as the heaven is high above the earth,

So great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,

So far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children,

So the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame ;

He remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass ;

As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone ;

And the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
upon them that fear him,

And his righteousness unto children's children ;

To such as keep his covenant,

And to those that remember his precepts to do them.

The Lord hath established his throne in the heavens ;

And his kingdom ruleth over all.

Bless the Lord, ye angels of his :

Ye mighty in strength, that fulfil his word,

Hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all ye his hosts ;

Ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

Bless the Lord, all ye his works,

In all places of his dominion :

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

THIRTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

Appeal of the Innocent.

Ps. 7. O Lord my God, in thee do I put my trust :
Save me from all them that pursue me, and deliver me :

Lest he tear my soul like a lion,
Rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

O Lord my God, if I have done this ;
If there be iniquity in my hands ;
If I have rewarded evil unto him that was at peace with
me ;

(Yea, I have delivered him that without cause was mine
adversary :)

Let the enemy pursue my soul, and overtake it ;

Yea, let him tread my life down to the earth,
And lay my glory in the dust.

Arise, O Lord, in thine anger,
Lift up thyself against the rage of mine adversaries :
And awake for me ; thou hast commanded judgment.

And let the congregation of the peoples compass thee
about :

And over them return thou on high.

The Lord ministereth judgment to the peoples :

Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness, and to
mine integrity that is in me.

Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end,
but establish thou the righteous :

For the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

My shield is with God,
Which saveth the upright in heart.

God is a righteous judge,
Yea, a God that hath indignation every day.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

If a man turn not, he will whet his sword ;
He hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

He hath also prepared for him the instruments of
death ;

He maketh his arrows fiery shafts.

Behold, he travaileth with iniquity ;
Yea, he hath conceived mischief, and brought forth
falsehood.

He hath made a pit, and digged it,
And is fallen into the ditch which he made.

His mischief shall return upon his own head,
And his violence shall come down upon his own pate.

I will give thanks unto the Lord according to his right-
eousness :

And will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

Ps. 144. Blessed be the Lord my rock,
Which teacheth my hands to war,
And my fingers to fight :

My lovingkindness, and my fortress,
My high tower, and my deliverer ;
My shield, and he in whom I trust ;
Who subdueth my people under me.

Lord, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him ?
Or the son of man, that thou makest account of him ?

Man is like to vanity :
His days are as a shadow that passeth away.

Bow thy heavens, O Lord, and come down :
Touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

Cast forth lightning, and scatter them ;
Send out thine arrows, and discomfit them.

Stretch forth thine hand from above ;

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Rescue me, and deliver me out of great waters,
Out of the hand of strangers ;
Whose mouth speaketh vanity,
And their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

I will sing a new song unto thee, O God :
Upon a psaltery of ten strings will I sing praises unto
thee.

It is he that giveth salvation unto kings :
Who rescueth David his servant from the hurtful
sword.

Rescue me, and deliver me out of the hand of strangers,
Whose mouth speaketh vanity,
And their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

When our sons shall be as plants grown up in their
youth :
And our daughters as corner stones hewn after the fashion
of a palace ;

When our garners are full, affording all manner of store ;
And our sheep bring forth thousands and ten thousands in
our fields ;

When our oxen are well laden ;
When there is no breaking in, and no going forth,
And no outcry in our streets ;
Happy is the people, that is in such a case :
Yea, happy is the people, whose God is the Lord.

THIRTY-NINTH SELECTION.

Prayer of the Obedient.

Ps. 40. I waited patiently for the Lord ;
And he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.
He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the
miry clay ;
And he set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise
unto our God :

Many shall see it, and fear,
And shall trust in the Lord.

Blessed is the man that maketh the Lord his trust,
And respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to
lies.

Many, O Lord my God, are the wonderful works which
thou hast done,

And thy thoughts which are to us-ward :

They cannot be set in order unto thee ;
If I would declare and speak of them,
They are more than can be numbered.

Sacrifice and offering thou hast no delight in ;
Mine ears hast thou opened :

Burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.

Then said I, Lo, I am come ;

In the roll of the book it is written of me :

I delight to do thy will, O my God ;
Yea, thy law is within my heart.

I have published righteousness in the great congrega-
tion ;

Lo, I will not refrain my lips,
O Lord, thou knowest.

I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart ;

I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation :

I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth
from the great congregation.

Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O
Lord :

Let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve-
me.

For innumerable evils have compassed me about,

Mine iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not
able to look up ;

**They are more than the hairs of mine head, and my heart
hath failed me.**

Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me :

Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Let them be ashamed and confounded together
That seek after my soul to destroy it :

**Let them be turned backward and brought to dishonor
That delight in my hurt.**

Let them be desolate by reason of their shame
That say unto me, Aha, Aha.

Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee :

Let such as love thy salvation say continually,

The Lord be magnified.

But I am poor and needy ;

Yet the Lord thinketh upon me :

Thou art my help and my deliverer ;

Make no tarrying, O my God.

FORTIETH SELECTION.

In National Disaster.

Ps. 79. O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance ;

Thy holy temple have they defiled ;

They have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

The dead bodies of thy servants have they given to be
meat unto the fowls of the heaven,

The flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.

Their blood have they shed like water round about
Jerusalem ;

And there was none to bury them.

We are become a reproach to our neighbors,

A scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

* * * * *

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy
name :

And deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's
sake.

* * * * *
Let the sighing of the prisoner come before thee ;

According to the greatness of thy power preserve thou
those that are appointed to death.

* * * * *
So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture
Will give thee thanks for ever :

We will show forth thy praise to all generations.

Ps. 80. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock ;

Thou that sittest upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up
thy might,

And come to save us.

Turn us again, O God ;

And cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,

How long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy
people ?

Thou hast fed them with the bread of tears,

And given them tears to drink in large measure.

Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbors :

And our enemies laugh among themselves.

Turn us again, O God of hosts ;

And cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

Thou broughtest a vine out of Egypt :

Thou didst drive out the nations, and plantedst it.

Thou preparedst room before it,

And it took deep root, and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with the shadow of it,
And the boughs thereof were like cedars of God.

She sent out her branches unto the sea,
And her shoots unto the River.

Why hast thou broken down her fences,
So that all they which pass by the way do pluck her ?
The boar out of the wood doth ravage it,
And the wild beasts of the field feed on it.

Turn again, we beseech thee, O God of hosts :
Look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine,
And the stock which thy right hand hath planted,
And the branch that thou madest strong for thyself.

It is burned with fire, it is cut down :
They perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.
Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand,
Upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself.
So shall we not go back from thee :
Quicken thou us, and we will call upon thy name.
Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts ;
Cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

FORTY-FIRST SELECTION.

In Weakness and Frailty.

Ps. 41. Blessed is he that considereth the poor :
The Lord will deliver him in the day of evil.
The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive, and he
shall be blessed upon the earth ;
And deliver not thou him unto the will of his enemies.
The Lord will support him upon the couch of languish-
ing :
Thou makest all his bed in his sickness.

I said, O Lord, have mercy upon me :
Heal my soul ; for I have sinned against thee.
Mine enemies speak evil against me, saying,
When shall he die, and his name perish ?

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity ;
His heart gathereth iniquity to itself :

When he goeth abroad, he telleth it.

All that hate me whisper together against me :

Against me do they devise my hurt.

An evil disease, say they, cleaveth fast unto him :

And now that he lieth he shall rise up no more.

Yea, ' mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which
did eat of my bread,

Hath lifted up his heel against me.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon me, and raise me up,
That I may requite them.

By this I know that thou delightest in me.

Because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity,

And settest me before thy face for ever.

Ps. 39. I said, I will take heed to my ways,
That I sin not with my tongue :

I will keep my mouth with a bridle,

While the wicked is before me.

I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from
good ;

And my sorrow was stirred.

My heart was hot within me ;

While I was musing the fire kindled :

Then spake I with my tongue ;

Lord, make me to know mine end,

And the measure of my days, what it is ;

Let me know how frail I am.

Behold, thou hast made my days as handbreadths ;

And mine age is as nothing before thee :

Surely every man at his best estate is altogether vanity.

Surely every man walketh in a vain show :
Surely they are disquieted in vain :

He heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather
them.

And now, Lord, what wait I for ?
My hope is in thee.

Deliver me from all my transgressions :
Make me not the reproach of the foolish.

I was dumb, I opened not my mouth ;
Because thou didst it.

Remove thy stroke away from me :
I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.

When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity,
Thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth :
Surely every man is vanity.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry ;
Hold not thy peace at my tears :

For I am a stranger with thee,
A sojourner, as all my fathers were.

O spare me, that I may recover strength,
Before I go hence, and be no more.

FORTY-SECOND SELECTION.

From the Overbearing of the Proud.

Ps. 123. Unto thee do I lift up mine eyes,
O thou that sittest in the heavens.

Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their
master,

As the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress ;
So our eyes look unto the Lord our God,
Until he have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us :
For we are exceedingly filled with contempt.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Our soul is exceedingly filled
With the scorning of those that are at ease,
And with the contempt of the proud.

Ps. 10. Why standest thou afar off, O Lord ?
Why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble ?
In the pride of the wicked the poor is hotly pursued ;
Let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.

For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire,
And the covetous renounceth, yea, contemneth the
Lord.

The wicked in the pride of his countenance, saith, He will
not require it.
All his thoughts are, There is no God.

His ways are firm at all times :
Thy judgments are far above out of his sight :
As for all his adversaries, he puffeth at them.

He saith in his heart, I shall not be moved :
To all generations I shall not be in adversity.
His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression :
Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.

He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages :
In the covert places doth he murder the innocent :
His eyes are privily set against the helpless.

He lurketh in the covert as a lion in his den :
He lieth in wait to catch the poor :
He doth catch the poor, when he draweth him in his net.

He croucheth, he boweth down,
And the helpless fall by his strong ones.
He saith in his heart, God hath forgotten :
He hideth his face ; he will never see it.

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RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Arise, O Lord ; O God, lift up thine hand :
Forget not the poor.

Wherefore doth the wicked condemn God,
And say in his heart, Thou wilt not require it ?

Thou hast seen it ; for thou beholdest mischief and
spite, to take it into thy hand :
The helpless committeth himself unto thee ;
Thou hast been the helper of the fatherless.

Break thou the arm of the wicked ;
And as for the evil man, seek out his wickedness till thou
find none.

The Lord is King for ever and ever :
The nations are perished out of his land.

Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the meek :
Thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear
to hear :
To judge the fatherless and the oppressed,
That man which is of the earth may be terrible no more.

FORTY-THIRD SELECTION.

In Defense of Righteousness.

Ps. 17. Hear the right, O Lord, attend unto my cry ;
Give ear unto my prayer that goeth not out of feigned
lips.

Let my sentence come forth from thy presence ;
Let thine eyes look upon equity.

Thou hast proved mine heart ; thou hast visited me in
the night ;
Thou hast tried me, and findest nothing ;
I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

As for the works of men, by the word of thy lips
I have kept me from the ways of the violent.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

**My steps have held fast to thy paths,
My feet have not slipped.**

I have called upon thee, for thou wilt answer me, O
God :

Incline thine ear unto me, and hear my speech.

**Show thy marvelous lovingkindness, O thou that savest
them which put their trust in thee**

From those that rise up against them, by thy right hand.

Keep me as the apple of the eye,

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

From the wicked that spoil me,

My deadly enemies, that compass me about.

They are inclosed in their own fat :

With their mouth they speak proudly.

They have now compassed us in our steps :

They set their eyes to cast us down to the earth.

He is like a lion that is greedy of his prey,

And as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.

Arise, O Lord, confront him, cast him down ;

Deliver my soul from the wicked by thy sword ;

From men, by thy hand, O Lord,

From men of the world, whose portion is in this life,

And whose belly thou fillest with thy treasure :

They are satisfied with children,

And leave the rest of their substance to their babes.

As for me, I shall behold thy face in righteousness :

I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Ps. 13. How long, O Lord, wilt thou forget me for ever?

How long wilt thou hide thy face from me ?

How long shall I take counsel in my soul,

Having sorrow in my heart all the day?

How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me ?

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Consider and answer me, O Lord my God :
Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death ;
 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him ;
 Lest mine adversaries rejoice when I am moved.

But I have trusted in thy mercy ;
My heart shall rejoice in thy salvation :
 I will sing unto the Lord,
 Because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

FORTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

From Temptations of the Wicked.

Ps. 141. Lord, I have called upon thee ; make haste
 unto me :
Give ear unto my voice, when I call unto thee.
 Let my prayer be set forth as incense before thee ;
 The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth ;
 Keep the door of my lips.

Incline not my heart to any evil thing,
To be occupied in deeds of wickedness
With men that work iniquity :
 And let me not eat of their dainties.

Let the righteous smite me, it shall be a kindness ;
And let him reprove me, it shall be as oil upon the head ;
 Let not my head refuse it :
 For even in their wickedness shall my prayer continue.

Their judges are thrown down by the sides of the rock ;
And they shall hear my words ; for they are sweet.
 As when one ploweth and cleaveth the earth,
 Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth.

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For mine eyes are unto thee, O God the Lord :

In thee do I put my trust ; leave not my soul destitute.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me,
And from the gins of the workers of iniquity.

Let the wicked fall into their own nets,

Whilst that I withal escape.

Ps. 28. Unto thee, O Lord, will I call ;

My rock, be not thou deaf unto me :

Lest if thou be silent unto me,

I become like them that go down into the pit.

Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee,

When I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

Draw me not away with the wicked,

And with the workers of iniquity ;

Which speak peace with their neighbors,

But mischief is in their hearts.

Give them according to their work, and according to
the wickedness of their doings :

Give them after the operation of their hands ;

Render to them their desert.

Because they regard not the works of the Lord,

Nor the operation of his hands,

He shall break them down and not build them up.

Blessed be the Lord,

Because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.

The Lord is my strength and my shield ;

My heart hath trusted in him, and I am helped ;

Therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth ;

And with my song will I praise him.

The Lord is their strength,

And he is a strong hold of salvation to his anointed.

Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance :

Feed them also, and bear them up for ever.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

FORTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

From the Violent.

Ps. 140. Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man ;
Preserve me from the violent man ;
Which imagine mischiefs in their heart ;
Continually do they gather themselves together for war.

They have sharpened their tongue like a serpent ;
Adders' poison is under their lips.

Keep me, O Lord, from the hands of the wicked ;
Preserve me from the violent man :

Who have purposed to thrust aside my steps.

The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords ;
They have spread a net by the way side ;
They have set gins for me.

I said unto the Lord, Thou art my God :
Give ear unto the voice of my supplications, O Lord.
O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation,
Thou hast covered my head in the day of battle.

Grant not, O Lord, the desires of the wicked ;
Further not his evil device ; lest they exalt themselves.

Ps. 86. Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and answer me ;
For I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul ; for I am godly :
O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord ;
For unto thee do I cry all the day long.

Rejoice the soul of thy servant ;
For unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive,
And plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer ;
And hearken unto the voice of my supplications.

**In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee ;
For thou wilt answer me.**

There is none like unto thee among the gods, O Lord ;
Neither are there any works like unto thy works.

All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship
before thee, O Lord ;
And they shall glorify thy name.
**For thou art great, and doest wondrous things :
Thou art God alone.**

Teach me thy way, O Lord ; I will walk in thy truth :
Unite my heart to fear thy name.

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with my whole
heart ;
And I will glorify thy name for evermore.
**For great is thy mercy toward me ;
And thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest pit.**

O God, the proud are risen up against me,
**And the congregation of violent men have sought after
my soul,
And have not set thee before them.**

But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion and
gracious,
Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me ;
**Give thy strength unto thy servant,
And save the son of thine handmaid.**

Show me a token for good ;
That they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed,
Because thou, Lord, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

FORTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

From Slanderers.

Ps. 31. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust ; let me never be ashamed :

Deliver me in thy righteousness.

Bow down thine ear unto me ; deliver me speedily :
Be thou to me a strong rock, an house of defence to save me.

For thou art my rock and my fortress ;

Therefore for thy name's sake lead me and guide me.

Pluck me out of the net that they have laid privily for me ;

For thou art my strong hold.

Into thine hand I commend my spirit :

Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

I hate them that regard lying vanities :

But I trust in the Lord.

I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy :

For thou hast seen my affliction :

Thou hast known my soul in adversities :

And thou hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy ;

Thou hast set my feet in a large place.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in distress :

Mine eye wasteth away with grief, yea, my soul and my body.

For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing :

My strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are wasted away.

Because of all mine adversaries I am become a reproach,

Yea, unto my neighbors exceedingly, and a fear to mine acquaintance :

They that did see me without fled from me.

I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind :

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

I am like a broken vessel.

For I have heard the defaming of many,
Terror on every side :

**While they took counsel together against me,
They devised to take away my life.**

But I trusted in thee, O Lord :
I said, thou art my God.

**My times are in thy hand :
Deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them
that persecute me.**

Make thy face to shine upon thy servant :
Save me in thy lovingkindness.

* * * * *

Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up
for them that fear thee,

**Which thou hast wrought for them that put their trust in
thee, before the sons of men !**

In the covert of thy presence shalt thou hide them
from the plottings of man :

**Thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife
of tongues.**

Blessed be the Lord :

For he hath showed me his marvellous lovingkindness
in a strong city.

**As for me, I said in my haste, I am cut off from before
thine eyes :**

**Nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications
when I cried unto thee.**

O love the Lord, all ye his saints :
The Lord preserveth the faithful,
And plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

**Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
All ye that hope in the Lord.**

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

FORTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

A Prayer of Moses the Man of God.

Ps. 90. Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place
In all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
Or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Thou turnest man to destruction ;
And sayest, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight
Are but as yesterday when it is past,
And as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood ; they are as a
sleep :

In the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up ;
In the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

For we are consumed in thine anger,
And in thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before thee,
Our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in thy wrath :

We bring our years to an end as a tale that is told.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten,

Or even by reason of strength fourscore years ;

Yet is their pride but labor and sorrow ;
For it is soon gone and we fly away.

Who knoweth the power of thine anger,

And thy wrath according to the fear that is due unto
thee ?

So teach us to number our days,

That we may get us an heart of wisdom.

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PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Return, O Lord ; how long ?
And let it repent thee concerning thy servants.

**O satisfy us in the morning with thy mercy ;
That we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast
afflicted us,

And the years wherein we have seen evil.

**Let thy work appear unto thy servants,
And thy glory upon their children.**

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us :
And establish thou the work of our hands upon us ;

Yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

FORTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

In Old Age.

Ps. 71. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust :
Let me never be ashamed.

**Deliver me in thy righteousness, and rescue me :
Bow down thine ear unto me, and save me.**

Be thou to me a rock of habitation, whereunto I may
continually resort :

**Thou hast given commandment to save me ;
For thou art my rock and my fortress.**

Rescue me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

**For thou art my hope, O Lord God :
Thou art my trust from my youth.**

By thee have I been holden up from the womb :
Thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels:

My praise shall be continually of thee.

I am as a wonder unto many ;
But thou art my strong refuge.

**My mouth shall be filled with thy praise,
And with thy honor all the day.**

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Cast me not off in the time of old age ;
Forsake me not when my strength faileth.

For mine enemies speak concerning me ;
And they that watch for my soul take counsel together,
Saying, God hath forsaken him :
Pursue and take him ; for there is none to deliver.

O God, be not far from me :
O my God, make haste to help me.

Let them be ashamed and consumed that are adversa-
ries to my soul ;
Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor that seek
my hurt.

But I will hope continually,
And will praise thee yet more and more.
My mouth shall tell of thy righteousness,
And of thy salvation all the day ;
For I know not the numbers thereof.

I will come with the mighty acts of the Lord God :
I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine
only.

O God, thou hast taught me from my youth ;
And hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.

Yea, even when I am old and gray-headed, O God, for-
sake me not ;
Until I have declared thy strength unto the next genera-
tion,
Thy might to every one that is to come.

Thy righteousness, O God, is very high ;
Thou who hast done great things ;
O God, who is like unto thee ?

Thou, which hast showed us many and sore troubles,
Shalt quicken us again,
And shalt bring us up again from the depths of the earth.

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Increase thou my greatness, and turn again and comfort me.

I will also praise thee with the psaltery,
Even thy truth, O my God :

Unto thee will I sing praises with the harp,
O thou Holy One of Israel.

My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing praises unto thee ;

And my soul, which thou hast redeemed.

My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long :

For they are ashamed, for they are confounded, that seek my hurt.

FORTY-NINTH SELECTION.

Encouragement from God's Mercies.

Ps. 143. Hear my prayer, O Lord ; give ear to my supplications :

In thy faithfulness answer me, and in thy righteousness.

And enter not into judgment with thy servant ;

For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

For the enemy hath persecuted my soul ;

He hath smitten my life down to the ground :

He hath made me to dwell in dark places, as those that have been long dead.

Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me ;

My heart within me is desolate.

I remember the days of old ;

I meditate on all thy doings :

I muse on the work of thy hands.

I spread forth my hands unto thee :

My soul thirsteth after thee, as a weary land.

Make haste to answer me, O Lord ; my spirit faileth :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**Hide not thy face from me ;
Lest I become like them that go down into the pit.**

Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning ;
For in thee do I trust :

**Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk ;
For I lift up my soul unto thee.**

Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies :
I flee unto thee to hide me.

Teach me to do thy will ; for thou art my God :
Thy spirit is good ; lead me in the land of uprightness.

Quicken me, O Lord, for thy name's sake :
In thy righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.

Ps. 142. I cry with my voice unto the Lord ;
With my voice unto the Lord do I make supplication.

**I pour out my complaint before him ;
I shew before him my trouble.**

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, thou
knewest my path.

**In the way wherein I walk have they hidden a snare for
me.**

Look on my right hand, and see ; for there is no man
that knoweth me :

Refuge hath failed me ; no man careth for my soul.

I cried unto thee, O Lord ;
**I said, Thou art my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.**

Attend unto my cry ; for I am brought very low :
**Deliver me from my persecutors ; for they are stronger
than I.**

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks
unto thy name :

**The righteous shall compass me about ;
For thou shalt deal bountifully with me.**

PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE.

Ps. 138. I will give thee thanks with my whole heart :
Before the Gods will I sing praises unto thee.

I will worship toward thy holy temple,
And give thanks unto thy name for thy lovingkindness
and for thy truth :

For thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

In the day that I called thou answeredst me.

Thou didst encourage me with strength in my soul.

All the kings of the earth shall give thee thanks, O
Lord,

For they have heard the words of thy mouth.

Yea, they shall sing of the ways of the Lord ;

For great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto
the lowly :

But the haughty he knoweth from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive
me ;

**Thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of
mine enemies,**

And thy right hand shall save me.

The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me :

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever ;

Forsake not the works of thine own hands.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

FIFTIETH SELECTION.

God's Majestic Appearing.

Ps. 18. I love thee, O Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
 My God, my strong rock, in him will I trust ;
 My shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower.
I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised :
 So shall I be saved from mine enemies.

The cords of death compassed me,
And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid.
 The cords of Sheol were round about me :
 The snares of death came upon me.

In my distress I called upon the Lord,
And cried unto my God :
 He heard my voice out of his temple,
 And my cry before him came into his ears.

Then the earth shook and trembled,
The foundations also of the mountains moved
And were shaken, because he was wroth.
 There went up a smoke out of his nostrils,
 And fire out of his mouth devoured :
 Coals were kindled by it.

He bowed the heavens also, and came down ;
And thick darkness was under his feet.
 And he rode upon a chernub, and did fly :
 Yea, he flew swiftly upon the wings of the wind.

He made darkness his hiding place, his pavilion round
 about him ;
Darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

At the brightness before him his thick clouds passed,
Hailstones and coals of fire.

The Lord also thundered in the heavens,
And the Most High uttered his voice ;
Hailstones and coals of fire.

And he sent out his arrows, and scattered them ;
Yea, lightnings manifold, and discomfited them.

Then the channels of waters appeared,
And the foundations of the world were laid bare,
At thy rebuke, O Lord,
At the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

He sent from on high, he took me ;
He drew me out of many waters.
He delivered me from my strong enemy,
And from them that hated me, for they were too mighty
for me.

They came upon me in the day of my calamity :
But the Lord was my stay.
He brought me forth also into a large place ;
He delivered me, because he delighted in me.

The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness ;
According to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.
For I have kept the ways of the Lord,
And have not wickedly departed from my God.

For all his judgments were before me,
And I put not away his statutes from me.
I was also perfect with him,
And I kept myself from mine iniquity.

Therefore hath the Lord recompensed me according to
my righteousness,
According to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful ;
With the perfect man thou wilt show thyself perfect ;

With the pure thou wilt show thyself pure ;

And with the perverse thou wilt show thyself froward.

For thou wilt save the afflicted people ;

But the haughty eyes thou wilt bring down.

For thou wilt light my lamp :

The Lord my God will lighten my darkness.

For by thee I run upon a troop ;

And by my God do I leap over a wall.

FIFTY-FIRST SELECTION.

Confidence for the Future.

Ps. 18. As for God, his way is perfect :

The word of the Lord is tried ;

He is a shield unto all them that trust in him.

For who is God, save the Lord ?

And who is a rock beside our God ?

The God that girdeth me with strength,

And maketh my way perfect.

He maketh my feet like hinds' feet ;

And setteth me upon my high places.

He teacheth my hands to war ;

So that mine arms do bend a bow of brass.

Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation :

And thy right hand hath holden me up,

And thy gentleness hath made me great.

Thou hast enlarged my steps under me,

And my feet have not slipped.

I will pursue mine enemies, and overtake them :

Neither will I turn again till they are consumed.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

I will smite them through that they shall not be able to
rise :

They shall fall under my feet.

For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle :
Thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against
me.

Thou hast also made mine enemies turn their backs unto
me,

That I might cut off them that hate me.

They cried, but there was none to save :
Even unto the Lord, but he answered them not.

Then did I beat them small as the dust before the wind :
I did cast them out as the mire of the streets.

Thou hast delivered me from the strivings of the people;
Thou hast made me the head of the nations :

A people whom I have not known shall serve me.

As soon as they hear of me they shall obey me :
The strangers shall submit themselves unto me.

The strangers shall fade away,
And shall come trembling out of their close places.

The Lord liveth ; and blessed be my rock ;
And exalted be the God of my salvation :

Even the God that executeth vengeance for me,
And subdueth peoples under me.

He rescueth me from mine enemies :

Yea, thou liftest me up above them that rise up against me :
Thou deliverest me from the violent man.

Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among
the nations,

And will sing praises unto thy name.

Great deliverance giveth he to his king ;
And sheweth lovingkindness to his anointed,

To David and to his seed, for evermore.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

FIFTY-SECOND SELECTION.

From Death.

Ps. 30. I will extol thee, O Lord ; for thou hast raised
me up,

And hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

O Lord my God,

I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from Sheol :

Thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to
the pit.

Sing praise unto the Lord, O ye saints of his,

And give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment ;

In his favor is life :

Weeping may tarry for the night,

But joy cometh in the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity,

I shall never be moved.

**Thou, Lord, of thy favor hadst made my mountain to
stand strong :**

Thou didst hide thy face ; I was troubled.

I cried to thee, O Lord ;

And unto the Lord I made supplication :

What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to
the pit ?

Shall the dust praise thee ? shall it declare thy truth ?

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me :

Lord, be thou my helper.

Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing ;

**Thou hast loosed my sackcloth, and girded me with glad-
ness :**

To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and
not be silent.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Ps. 116. I love the Lord, because he hath heard
My voice and my supplications.

**Because he hath inclined his ear unto me,
Therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.**

The cords of death compassed me,
And the pains of Sheol gat hold upon me :
I found trouble and sorrow.

**Then called I upon the name of the Lord ;
O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.**

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous ;
Yea, our God is merciful.

**The Lord preserveth the simple :
I was brought low, and he saved me.**

Return unto thy rest, O my soul ;
For the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.

For thou hast delivered my soul from death,
Mine eyes from tears,
And my feet from falling.

**I will walk before the Lord
In the land of the living.**

I believe, for I will speak : I was greatly afflicted :
I said in my haste, all men are a lie.

What shall I render unto the Lord
For all his benefits toward me ?

**I will take the cup of salvation,
And call upon the name of the Lord.**

I will pay my vows unto the Lord,
Yea, in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord,
Is the death of his saints.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

O Lord, truly I am thy servant :
I am thy servant, the son of thine handmaid ;
Thou hast loosed my bonds.

I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
And will call upon the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows unto the Lord,
Yea, in the presence of all his people ;

In the courts of the Lord's house,
In the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.
Praise ye the Lord.

FIFTY-THIRD SELECTION.

From Zion's Enemies.

Ps. 76. In Judah is God known :
His name is great in Israel.

In Salem also is his tabernacle,
And his dwelling place in Zion.

There he brake the arrows of the bow ;
The shield, and the sword, and the battle.

Glorious art thou and excellent, from the mountains of
prey.

The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep ;
And none of the men of might have found their hands.

At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob,
Both chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.

Thou, even thou, art to be feared :
And who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?

Thou didst cause sentence to be heard from heaven ;
The earth feared, and was still,

When God arose to judgment,
To save all the meek of the earth.

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PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee :
The residue of wrath shalt thou gird upon thee.

Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God :
Let all that be round about him bring presents unto him
that ought to be feared.

He shall cut off the spirit of princes :
He is terrible to the kings of the earth.

Ps. 48. Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised,
In the city of our God, in his holy mountain.

Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
Is mount Zion, on the sides of the north,
The city of the great King.
God hath made himself known in her palaces for a refuge.

For, lo, the kings assembled themselves,
They passed by together.
They saw it, then were they amazed ;
They were dismayed, they hasted away.

Trembling took hold of them there ;
Pain, as of a woman in travail.
With the east wind
Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish.

As we have heard, so have we seen
In the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God :
God will establish it for ever.

We have thought on thy lovingkindness, O God,
In the midst of thy temple.
As is thy name, O God,
So is thy praise unto the ends of the earth :
Thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Let mount Zion be glad,
Let the daughters of Judah rejoice,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Because of thy judgments.

Walk about Zion, and go round about her :
Tell the towers thereof.

Mark ye well her bulwarks,

Consider her palaces ;

That ye may tell it to the generation following.

For this God is our God for ever and ever :

He will be our guide even unto death.

FIFTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

God a God of Deliverances.

Ps. 68. Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered ;
Let them also that hate him flee before him.

But let the righteous be glad ; let them exult before God :

Yea, let them rejoice with gladness.

Sing unto God, sing praises to his name :

Cast up a high way for him that rideth through the
deserts ;

His name is Jah ; and exult ye before him.

A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows,
Is God in his holy habitation.

God setteth the solitary in families :

He bringeth out the prisoners into prosperity :

But the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people,
When thou didst march through the wilderness ;
The earth trembled,

The heavens also dropped at the presence of God :

**Even yon Sinai trembled at the presence of God, the God
of Israel.**

Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain,

Thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was
weary.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

Thy congregation dwelt therein :

Thou, O God, didst prepare of thy goodness for the poor.

The Lord giveth the word :

The women that publish the tidings are a great host.

Kings of armies flee, they flee :

And she that tarrieth at home divideth the spoil.

Will ye lie among the sheepfolds,
As the wings of a dove covered with silver,
And her pinions with yellow gold ?

**When the Almighty scattered kings therein,
It was as when it snoweth in Zalmon.**

A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan ;

An high mountain is the mountain of Bashan.

Why look ye askance, ye high mountains,
At the mountain which God hath desired for his abode ?

Yea, the Lord will dwell in it for ever.

The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands upon thousands :

The Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the sanctuary.

Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led thy captivity captive ;

Thou hast received gifts among men,

Yea, among the rebellious also, that the Lord God might dwell with them.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily beareth our burden,
Even the God who is our salvation.

God is unto us a God of deliverances ;

And unto Jehovah the Lord belong the issues from death.

* * * * *

Thy God hath commanded thy strength :

Strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us.

**Because of thy temple at Jerusalem
Kings shall bring presents unto thee.**

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Rebuke the wild beast of the reeds,
The multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the
peoples,

Trampling under foot the pieces of silver ;

He hath scattered the peoples that delight in war.

Princes shall come out of Egypt ;

Ethiopia shall haste to stretch out her hands unto God.

Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth ;

O sing praises unto the Lord ;

To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, which are
of old ;

Lo, he uttereth his voice, and that a mighty voice.

Ascribe ye strength unto God :

His excellency is over Israel,

And his strength is in the skies.

O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places :

The God of Israel, he giveth strength and power unto
his people.

Blessed be God.

FIFTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

Wonders of God's Method as Redeemer.

Ps. 107. O give thanks unto the Lord ; for he is good :
For his mercy endureth for ever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

Whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the adversary ;

And gathered them out of the lands,

From the east and from the west,

From the north and from the south.

They wandered in the wilderness in a desert way ;

They found no city of habitation.

Hungry and thirsty,

Their soul fainted in them.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble,
And he delivered them out of their distresses.

**He led them also by a straight way,
That they might go to a city of habitation.**

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
And for his wonderful works to the children of men !

For he satisfieth the longing soul,
And the hungry soul he filleth with good.

Such as sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
Being bound in affliction and iron ;
Because they rebelled against the words of God,
And contemned the counsel of the Most High :

**Therefore he brought down their heart with labor ;
They fell down, and there was none to help.**

Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble,
And he saved them out of their distresses.

**He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
And brake their bands in sunder.**

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
And for his wonderful works to the children of men !

For he hath broken the gates of brass,
And cut the bars of iron in sunder.

Fools because of their transgression,
And because of their iniquities, are afflicted.

**Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat ;
And they draw near unto the gates of death.**

Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble,
And he saveth them out of their distresses,

**He sendeth his word, and healeth them,
And delivereth them from their destructions.**

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
And for his wonderful works to the children of men !

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

And let them offer the sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And declare his works with singing.

They that go down to the sea in ships,
That do business in great waters ;
These see the works of the Lord,
And his wonders in the deep.

For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind,
Which lifteth up the waves thereof.

They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to
the depths :

Their soul melteth away because of trouble.

They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man,
And are at their wits' end.

Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble,
And he bringeth them out of their distresses.

He maketh the storm a calm,
So that the waves thereof are still.

Then are they glad because they be quiet ;

So he bringeth them unto the haven where they would be.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
And for his wonderful works to the children of men !

Let them exalt him also in the assembly of the people,
And praise him in the seat of the elders.

He turneth rivers into a wilderness,
And watersprings into a thirsty ground ;

A fruitful land into a salt desert,
For the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

He turneth a wilderness into a pool of water,
And a dry land into watersprings.

And there he maketh the hungry to dwell,
That they may prepare a city of habitation ;
And sow fields, and plant vineyards,
And get them fruits of increase.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied
greatly ;

And he suffereth not their cattle to decrease.

Again, they are minished and bowed down
Through oppression, trouble, and sorrow.

He poureth contempt upon princes,

And causeth them to wander in the waste, where there is
no way.

Yet setteth he the needy on high from affliction,
And maketh him families like a flock.

The upright shall see it, and be glad ;

And all iniquity shall stop her mouth.

Whoso is wise shall give heed to these things,
And they shall consider the mercies of the Lord.

FIFTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

It is the Lord Who Delivers.

Ps. 124. If it had not been the Lord who was on our
side,

Let Israel now say ;

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,

When men rose up against us :

Then they had swallowed us up alive,

When their wrath was kindled against us :

Then the waters had overwhelmed us,

The stream had gone over our soul ;

Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.

Blessed be the Lord,

Who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth.

Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the
fowlers :

The snare is broken, and we are escaped.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Ps. 126. When the Lord turned again the captivity of
Zion,

We were like unto them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
And our tongue with singing :

Then said they among the nations,
The Lord hath done great things for them.

The Lord hath done great things for us ;
Whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O Lord,
As the streams in the South.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Though he goeth on his way weeping, bearing forth the
seed ;

He shall come again with joy, bringing his sheaves with
him.

Ps. 85. Lord, thou hast been favorable unto thy land:
Thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.

Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people,
Thou hast covered all their sin.

Thou hast taken away all thy wrath ;

Thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine
anger.

Turn us, O God of our salvation,
And cause thine indignation toward us to cease.

Wilt thou be angry with us for ever ?

Wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations ?

Wilt thou not quicken us again :
That thy people may rejoice in thee ?

Show us thy mercy, O Lord,
And grant us thy salvation.

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PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

I will hear what God the Lord will speak :
For he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints:
But let them not turn again to folly.

Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him ;
That glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together ;
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth springeth out of the earth ;
And righteousness hath looked down from heaven.

Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good ;
And our land shall yield her increase.

Righteousness shall go before him ;
And shall make his footsteps a way to walk in.

FIFTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

A Call to Public Acknowledgment.

Ps. 118. O give thanks unto the Lord ; for he is good :
For his mercy endureth for ever.

Let Israel now say,
That his mercy endureth for ever.

Let the house of Aaron now say,
That his mercy endureth for ever.

Let them now that fear the Lord say,
That his mercy endureth for ever.

Out of my distress I called upon the Lord :
The Lord answered me and set me in a large place.

The Lord is on my side ; I will not fear :
What can man do unto me ?

The Lord is on my side among them that help me :
Therefore shall I see my desire upon them that hate me.

It is better to trust in the Lord
Than to put confidence in man.

It is better to trust in the Lord
Than to put confidence in princes.

+

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

All nations compassed me about :

In the name of the Lord I will cut them off.

They compassed me about ; yea, they compassed me
about :

In the name of the Lord I will cut them off.

They compassed me about like bees ; they are quenched
as the fire of thorns :

In the name of the Lord I will cut them off.

Thou didst thrust sore at me that I might fall :
But the Lord helped me.

**The Lord is my strength and song ;
And he is become my salvation.**

The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of
the righteous :

The right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

The right hand of the Lord is exalted :

The right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

I shall not die, but live,
And declare the works of the Lord.

**The Lord hath chastened me sore :
But he hath not given me over unto death.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness :
I will enter into them, I will give thanks unto the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord ;
The righteous shall enter into it.**

I will give thanks unto thee, for thou hast answered me,
And art become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected
Is become the head of the corner.

**This is the Lord's doing ;
It is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day which the Lord hath made ;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE.

Save now, we beseech thee, O Lord :

O Lord, we beseech thee, send now prosperity.

Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord :

We have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he hath given us light :

Bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.

Thou art my God, and I will give thanks unto thee :

Thou art my God, I will exalt thee.

O give thanks unto the Lord ; for he is good :

For his mercy endureth for ever.

FIFTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

God Shows Himself a Judge.

Ps. 9. I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart ;

I will show forth all thy marvellous works.

I will be glad and exult in thee :

I will sing praise to thy name, O thou Most High.

When mine enemies turn back,

They stumble and perish at thy presence.

For thou hast maintained my right and my cause ;

Thou satest in the throne judging righteously.

Thou hast rebuked the nations, thou hast destroyed the wicked,

Thou hast blotted out their name for ever and ever.

The enemy are come to an end, they are desolate for ever ;

And the cities which thou hast overthrown,

Their very memorial is perished.

But the Lord sitteth as king for ever :

He hath prepared his throne for judgment.

And he shall judge the world in righteousness,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

He shall minister judgment to the peoples in uprightness.

The Lord also will be a high tower for the oppressed,
A high tower in times of trouble ;

**And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee ;
For thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.**

Sing praises to the Lord, which dwelleth in Zion :
Declare among the people his doings.

**For he that maketh inquisition for blood remembereth
them :**

He forgetteth not the cry of the poor.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord ;
Behold my affliction which I suffer of them that hate me,
Thou that liftest me up from the gates of death ;

**That I may show forth all thy praise :
In the gates of the daughter of Zion,
I will rejoice in thy salvation.**

The nations are sunk down in the pit that they made :
In the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

**The Lord hath made himself known, he hath executed
judgment :**

The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

The wicked shall return to Sheol,
Even all the nations that forget God.

**For the needy shall not alway be forgotten,
Nor the expectation of the poor perish for ever.**

Arise, O Lord ; let not man prevail :
Let the nations be judged in thy sight.

**Put them in fear, O Lord :
Let the nations know themselves to be but men.**

SONGS OF FAITH.

FIFTY-NINTH SELECTION.

Rest in God.

Ps. 11. In the Lord put I my trust :

How say ye to my soul,

Flee as a bird to your mountain ?

For, lo, the wicked bend the bow,
They make ready their arrow upon the string,
That they may shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.

If the foundations be destroyed,

What can the righteous do ?

The Lord is in his holy temple,

The Lord, his throne is in heaven ;

His eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

The Lord trieth the righteous :

But the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul
hateth.

Upon the wicked he shall rain snares ;

Fire and brimstone and burning wind shall be the portion
of their cup.

For the Lord is righteous ; he loveth righteousness :

The upright shall behold his face.

Ps. 3. Lord, how are mine adversaries increased !

Many are they that rise up against me.

Many there be which say of my soul,

There is no help for him in God.

But thou, O Lord, art a shield about me ;

My glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

I cry unto the Lord with my voice,

And he answereth me out of his holy hill.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

I laid me down and slept ;
I awaked ; for the Lord sustaineth me.

**I will not be afraid of ten thousands of the people,
That have set themselves against me round about.**

Arise, O Lord ; save me, O my God :
For thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek
bone ;

Thou hast broken the teeth of the wicked.

Salvation belongeth unto the Lord :

Thy blessing be upon thy people.

Ps. 4. Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness ;

**Thou hast set me at large when I was in distress :
Have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.**

O ye sons of men, how long shall my glory be turned
into dishonor ?

How long will ye love vanity, and seek after falsehood ?

But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is
godly for himself :

The Lord will hear when I call unto him.

Stand in awe, and sin not :

Commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,

And put your trust in the Lord.

Many there be that say, Who will show us any good ?
Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

**Thou hast put gladness in my heart,
More than they have when their corn and their wine are
increased.**

In peace will I both lay me down and sleep :

For thou, Lord, alone makest me dwell in safety.

SONGS OF FAITH.

SIXTIETH SELECTION.

Under the Shadow of the Almighty.

Ps. 16. Preserve me, O God : for in thee do I put my trust.

I have said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord :
I have no good beyond thee.

As for the saints that are in the earth,
They are the excellent in whom is all my delight.

Their sorrows shall be multiplied that exchange the
Lord for another god :

Their drink offerings of blood will I not offer,
Nor take their names upon my lips.

The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my
cup :

Thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places ;
Yea, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel :
Yea, my reins instruct me in the night seasons.

I have set the Lord always before me :

Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth :
My flesh also shall dwell in safety.

For thou wilt not leave my soul to Sheol ;
Neither wilt thou suffer thine holy one to see corruption.

Thou wilt show me the path of life :

In thy presence is fullness of joy ;

In thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Ps. 91. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the
Most High

Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

**I will say of the Lord, he is my refuge and my fortress ;
My God, in whom I trust.**

For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler,
And from the noisome pestilence.

**He shall cover thee with his pinions,
And under his wings shalt thou take refuge :
His truth is a shield and a buckler.**

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night,
Nor the arrow that flieth by day ;

**For the pestilence that walketh in darkness,
Nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.**

A thousand shall fall at thy side,
And ten thousand at thy right hand ;
But it shall not come nigh thee.

**Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold,
And see the reward of the wicked.**

For thou, O Lord, art my refuge !

**Thou hast made the Most High thy habitation ;
There shall no evil befall thee,
Neither shall any plague come nigh thy tent.**

For he shall give his angels charge over thee,
To keep thee in all thy ways.

**They shall bear thee up in their hands,
Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.**

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder :

**The young lion and the serpent shalt thou trample under
feet.**

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I
deliver him :

I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

SONGS OF FAITH.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him ;
I will be with him in trouble :
I will deliver him, and honor him.

With long life will I satisfy him,
And show him my salvation.

SIXTY-FIRST SELECTION.

God the Sleepless Guard.

Ps. 125. They that trust in the Lord
Are as mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abideth
for ever.

As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
So the Lord is round about his people,
From this time forth and for evermore.

For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest upon the
lot of the righteous ;

That the righteous put not forth their hands unto iniquity.

Do good, O Lord, unto those that be good,
And to them that are upright in their hearts.

But as for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways,
The Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of
iniquity.

Peace be upon Israel.

Ps. 121. I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains :
From whence shall my help come ?

My help cometh from the Lord,
Which made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved :
He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.

The sun shall not smite thee by day,

Nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep thee from all evil :

He shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall keep thy going out and thy coming in,

From this time forth and for evermore.

Ps. 23. The Lord is my shepherd ; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures :

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul :

He guideth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death,

I will fear no evil ; for thou art with me :

Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies :

Thou hast anointed my head with oil ; my cup runneth
over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life :

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SIXTY-SECOND SELECTION.

Waiting Until Calamities are Overpast.

Ps. 57. Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto
me ;

For my soul taketh refuge in thee :

Yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I take refuge,

Until these calamities be overpast.

SONGS OF FAITH.

I will cry unto God Most High ;
Unto God that performeth all things for me.
 He shall send from heaven, and save me,
 When he that would swallow me up reproacheth ;
 God shall send forth his mercy and his truth.

My soul is among lions ;
I lie among them that are set on fire,
 Even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows,
 And their tongue a sharp sword.

Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens ;
 Let thy glory be above all the earth.

They have prepared a net for my steps ;
My soul is bowed down :
 They have digged a pit before me ;
 They are fallen into the midst thereof themselves.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed :
I will sing, yea, I will sing praises.
 Awake up, my glory ; awake, psaltery and harp :
 I myself will awake right early.

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the
 peoples :

I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.
 For thy mercy is great unto the heavens,
 And thy truth unto the skies.

Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens ;
 Let thy glory be above all the earth.

Ps. 27. The Lord is my light and my salvation ; whom
 shall I fear ?

 The Lord is the strength of my life ; of whom shall I be
 afraid ?

When evil-doers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
Even mine adversaries and my foes, they stumbled and
 fell.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Though an host should encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear :
Though war should rise against me,
Even then will I be confident.

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek
after ;
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days
of my life,
To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his
temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me secretly in
his pavilion :
In the covert of his tabernacle shall he hide me ;
He shall lift me up upon a rock.

And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine ene-
mies round about me ;
And I will offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy ;
I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice :
Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face ; my heart said unto
thee,
Thy face, Lord, will I seek.
Hide not thy face from me ;
Put not thy servant away in anger :

Thou hast been my help ;
Cast me not off, neither forsake me, O God of my salva-
tion.
For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
But the Lord will take me up.

Teach me thy way, O Lord ;
And lead me in a plain path,
Because of mine enemies.

SONGS OF FAITH.

**Deliver me not over unto the will of mine adversaries :
For false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as
breathe out cruelty.**

I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness
of the Lord

In the land of the living.

Wait on the Lord :

Be strong, and let thine heart take courage ;

Yea, wait thou on the Lord.

SIXTY-THIRD SELECTION.

Trust Unshaken by Tumults of Men and of Nature.

Ps. 54. Save me, O God, by thy name,
And judge me in thy might.

Hear my prayer, O God ;

Give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers are risen up against me,
And violent men have sought after my soul :

They have not set God before them.

Behold, God is mine helper :

The Lord is of them that uphold my soul.

He shall requite the evil unto mine enemies :

Destroy thou them in thy truth.

With a freewill offering will I sacrifice unto thee :

I will give thanks unto thy name, O Lord, for it is good.

For he hath delivered me out of all trouble ;

And mine eye hath seen my desire upon mine enemies.

Ps. 56. Be merciful unto me, O God ; for man would
swallow me up :

All the day long he fighting oppresseth me.

Mine enemies would swallow me up all the day long :

For they be many that fight proudly against me.

What time I am afraid,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

I will put my trust in thee.

In God I will praise his word :

**In God have I put my trust, I will not be afraid ;
What can flesh do unto me ?**

All the day long they wrest my words :

All their thoughts are against me for evil.

They gather themselves together, they hide themselves,
They mark my steps,

Even as they have waited for my soul.

Shall they escape by iniquity ?

In anger cast down the peoples, O God.

Thou tellest my wanderings :

Put thou my tears into thy bottle ;

Are they not in thy book ?

Then shall mine enemies turn back in the day that I
call :

This I know, that God is for me.

In God will I praise his word :

In the Lord will I praise his word.

**In God have I put my trust, I will not be afraid ;
What can man do unto me ?**

Thy vows are upon me, O God :

I will render thank offerings unto thee.

For thou hast delivered my soul from death :

Hast thou not delivered my feet from falling ?

That I may walk before God

In the light of the living.

Ps. 46. God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

**Therefore will we not fear, though the earth do change,
And though the mountains be moved in the heart of the
seas ;**

SONGS OF FAITH.

Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled,
Though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the
city of God,

The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her ; she shall not be moved :

God shall help her, and that right early.

The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved :

He uttered his voice, the earth melted.

The Lord of hosts is with us ;

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord,

What desolations he hath made in the earth.

He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth :

He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder ;

He burneth the chariots in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God :

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in
the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us ;

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

SIXTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

In Great Darkness of Human Treachery.

Ps. 55. Give ear to my prayer, O God ;
And hide not thyself from my supplication.

Attend unto me, and answer me :

I am restless in my complaint, and moan ;

Because of the voice of the enemy,

Because of the oppression of the wicked ;

For they cast iniquity upon me,

And in anger they persecute me.

My heart is sore pained within me :

And the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

**Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me,
And horror hath overwhelmed me.**

And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove !

Then would I fly away, and be at rest.

Lo, then would I wander far off,

I would lodge in the wilderness.

I would haste me to a shelter

From the stormy wind and tempest.

Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongue :

For I have seen violence and strife in the city.

Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof :

Iniquity also and mischief are in the midst of it.

Wickedness is in the midst thereof :

Oppression and guile depart not from her streets.

For it was not an enemy that reproached me ;

Then I could have borne it :

**Neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself
against me ;**

Then I would have hid myself from him :

But it was thou, a man mine equal,

My companion, and my familiar friend.

We took sweet counsel together,

We walked in the house of God with the throng.

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As for me, I will call upon God ;

And the Lord shall save me.

**Evening, and morning, and at noonday, will I complain,
and moan :**

And he shall hear my voice.

He hath redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that
was against me :

For they were many that strove with me.

God shall hear, and answer them,

SONGS OF FAITH.

Even he that abideth of old,
The men who have no changes,
And who fear not God.

He hath put forth his hands against such as were at
peace with him :

He hath profaned his covenant.

His mouth was smooth as butter,
But his heart was war :

**His words were softer than oil,
Yet were they drawn swords.**

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain
thee :

He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit
of destruction :

**Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their
days ;**

But I will trust in thee.

Ps. 62. My soul waiteth only upon God :
From him cometh my salvation.

He only is my rock and my salvation :

He is my high tower ; I shall not be greatly moved.

How long will ye set upon a man,
That ye may slay him, all of you,
Like a bowing wall, like a tottering fence ?

They only consult to thrust him down from his excellency ;

They delight in lies :

They bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly.

My soul, wait thou only upon God ;
For my expectation is from him.

He only is my rock and my salvation :

He is my high tower ; I shall not be moved.

With God is my salvation and my glory :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.
Trust in him at all times, ye people ;
Pour out your heart before him :
God is a refuge for us.

Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high
degree are a lie :
In the balances they will go up ;
They are together lighter than vanity.

Trust not in oppression,
And become not vain in robbery :
If riches increase, set not your heart thereon.

God hath spoken once,
Twice have I heard this ;
That power belongeth unto God :
Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy :
For thou renderest to every man according to his work.

SIXTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

In Separation from the Sanctuary.

Ps. 42. As the hart panteth after the water brooks,
So panteth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God :
When shall I come and appear before God ?

My tears have been my meat day and night,
While they continually say unto me, Where is thy God ?
These things I remember, and pour out my soul within me,
How I went with the throng, and led them to the house of
God,
With the voice of joy and praise, a multitude keeping
holyday.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul ?
And why art thou disquieted within me ?
Hope thou in God : for I shall yet praise him
For the health of his countenance.

+

SONGS OF FAITH.

O my God, my soul is cast down within me :

Therefore do I remember thee from the land of Jordan,
And the Hermons, from the hill Mizar.

Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts :
All thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.

Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the
daytime,

And in the night his song shall be with me,
Even a prayer unto the God of my life.

I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten
me ?

Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the
enemy ?

As with a sword in my bones, mine adversaries reproach
me ;

While they continually say unto me, Where is thy God ?

Why art thou cast down, O my soul ?

And why art thou disquieted within me ?

Hope thou in God : for I shall yet praise him,
Who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Ps. 43. Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against
an ungodly nation :

O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.

For thou art the God of my strength ; why hast thou
cast me off ?

Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the
enemy ?

O send out thy light and thy truth ; let them lead me :
Let them bring me unto thy holy hill,
And to thy tabernacles.

Then will I go unto the altar of God,
Unto God my exceeding joy :

And upon the harp will I praise thee, O God, my God.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul ?

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

And why art thou disquieted within me ?
Hope thou in God : for I shall yet praise him,
Who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Ps. 84. How amiable are thy tabernacles,
O Lord of hosts !
My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the
Lord ;
My heart and my flesh cry out unto the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay
her young,
Even thine altars, O Lord of hosts,
My king, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house :
They will be still praising thee.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee ;
In whose heart are the high ways to Zion.

Passing through the valley of Weeping they make it a
place of springs ;
Yea, the early rain covereth it with blessings.

They go from strength to strength,
Every one of them appeareth before God in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer :
Give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our shield,
And look upon the face of thine anointed.

For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand.
I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,
Than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God is a sun and a shield :
The Lord will give grace and glory :
No good thing will he withhold from them that walk
uprightly.

SONGS OF FAITH.

O Lord of hosts,
Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

SIXTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

God a Refuge in Weariness.

Ps. 61. Hear my cry, O God ; attend unto my prayer.
From the end of the earth will I call unto thee, when my
heart is overwhelmed :

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
For thou hast been a refuge for me,
A strong tower from the enemy.
I will dwell in thy tabernacle for ever :
I will take refuge in the covert of thy wings.

For thou, O God, hast heard my vows :
Thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy
name.

Thou wilt prolong the king's life :
His years shall be as many generations.
He shall abide before God for ever :
O prepare lovingkindness and truth, that they may pre-
serve him.

So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever,
That I may daily perform my vows.

Ps. 63. O God, thou art my God ; early will I seek
thee :
My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee,
In a dry and weary land, where no water is.

So have I looked upon thee in the sanctuary,
To see thy power and thy glory.
For thy lovingkindness is better than life ;
My lips shall praise thee.

So will I bless thee while I live :
I will lift up my hands in thy name.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness ;
And my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips ;

When I remember thee upon my bed,
And meditate on thee in the night watches.

For thou hast been my help,
And in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

My soul followeth hard after thee :
Thy right hand upholdeth me.

But those that seek my soul to destroy it,
Shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

They shall be given over to the power of the sword :
They shall be a portion for foxes.

But the king shall rejoice in God ;
Every one that sweareth by him shall glory ;
For the month of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

SIXTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

God Alone Worthy of Trust.

Ps. 33. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous :
Praise is comely for the upright.

Give thanks unto the Lord with harp :
Sing praises unto him with the psaltery of ten strings.

Sing unto him a new song ;
Play skillfully with a loud noise.

For the word of the Lord is right ;
And all his work is done in faithfulness.
He loveth righteousness and judgment :
The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made ;
And all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap :
He layeth up the deeps in storehouses.

SONGS OF FAITH.

Let all the earth fear the Lord :

Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

For he spake, and it was done ;

He commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord bringeth the counsel of the nations to naught :
He maketh the thoughts of the peoples to be of none
effect.

The counsel of the Lord standeth fast for ever,

The thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord ;

The people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

The Lord looketh from heaven ;

He beholdeth all the sons of men ;

From the place of his habitation he looketh forth
Upon all the inhabitants of the earth ;

He that fashioneth the hearts of them all,

That considereth all their works.

There is no king saved by the multitude of an host :
A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.

An horse is a vain thing for safety :

Neither shall he deliver any by his great power.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him,
Upon them that hope in his mercy ;

To deliver their soul from death,

And to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul hath waited for the Lord :
He is our help and our shield.

For our heart shall rejoice in him,

Because we have trusted in his holy name.

Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us,

According as we have hoped in thee.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

SIXTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

God's Wonders Recalled in Time of Discouragement.

Ps. 77. I will cry unto God with my voice ;
Even unto God with my voice, and he will give ear unto
me.

In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord :
My hand was stretched out in the night, and slackened not ;
My soul refused to be comforted.

I remember God, and am disquieted :
I complain, and my spirit is overwhelmed.

Thou holdest mine eyes watching :
I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

I have considered the days of old,
The years of ancient times.
I call to remembrance my song in the night :
I commune with mine own heart ;
And my spirit made diligent search.

Will the Lord cast off for ever ?
And will he be favorable no more ?
Is his mercy clean gone for ever ?
Doth his promise fail for evermore ?

Hath God forgotten to be gracious ?
Hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies ?

And I said, this is my infirmity ;
But I will remember the years of the right hand of the
Most High.

I will make mention of the deeds of the Lord ;
For I will remember thy wonders of old.

I will meditate also upon all thy work,
And muse on thy doings.

Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary :
Who is a great god like unto God ?

SONGS OF FAITH.

Thou art the God that doest wonders :
Thou hast made known thy strength among the peoples.
 Thou hast with thine arm redeemed thy people,
 The sons of Jacob and Joseph.

The waters saw thee, O God ;
The waters saw thee, they were afraid :
The depths also trembled.
 The clouds poured out water ;
 The skies sent out a sound :
 Thine arrows also went abroad.

The voice of thy thunder was in the whirlwind ;
 The lightnings lightened the world :
 The earth trembled and shook.

Thy way was in the sea,
And thy paths in the great waters,
And thy footsteps were not known.
 Thou leddest thy people like a flock,
 By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

SIXTY-NINTH SELECTION.

Comfort in the Divine Presence.

Ps. 139. O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known
me.

 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising,
 Thou understandest my thought afar off.

Thou searchest out my path and my lying down,
And art acquainted with all my ways.

 For there is not a word in my tongue,
 But, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether.

Thou hast beset me behind and before,
And laid thine hand upon me.

 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me ;
 It is high, I cannot attain unto it.

Whither shall I go from thy spirit ?

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Or whither shall I flee from thy presence ?
If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there :
If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, thou art there.

If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea ;
Even there shall thy hand lead me,
And thy right hand shall hold me.

If I say, Surely the darkness shall overwhelm me,
And the light about me shall be night ;
Even the darkness hideth not from thee,
But the night shineth as the day :
The darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

For thou hast possessed my reins :
Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

I will give thanks unto thee ; for I am fearfully and
wonderfully made :
Wonderful are thy works ;
And that my soul knoweth right well.

My frame was not hidden from thee,
When I was made in secret,
And curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Thine eyes did see mine unperfect substance,
And in thy book were all my members written,
Which day by day were fashioned,
When as yet there was none of them.

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God !
How great is the sum of them !

If I should count them, they are more in number than the
sand :
When I awake, I am still with thee.

Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God :
Depart from me therefore, ye bloodthirsty men.
For they speak against thee wickedly,
And thine enemies take thy name in vain.

SONGS OF FAITH.

Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee ?
And am not I grieved with those that rise up against
 thee ?

**I hate them with perfect hatred :
I count them mine enemies.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart :
Try me, and know my thoughts :
 And see if there be any way of wickedness in me,
 And lead me in the way everlasting.

Ps. 131. Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes
 lofty ;
 Neither do I exercise myself in great matters,
 Or in things too wonderful for me.

Surely I have stilled and quieted my soul ;
Like a weaned child with his mother,
My soul is with me like a weaned child.
 O Israel, hope in the Lord
 From this time forth and for evermore.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

SEVENTIETH SELECTION.

The Promise to David.

Ps. 89. I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever:
With my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all
generations.

For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever ;
Thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

I have made a covenant with my chosen,
I have sworn unto David my servant ;
Thy seed will I establish for ever,
And build up thy throne to all generations.

And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O Lord ;
Thy faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.

For who in the skies can be compared unto the Lord ?
Who among the sons of the mighty is like unto the Lord,

A God very terrible in the council of the holy ones,
And to be feared above all them that are round about him ?

O Lord God of hosts,
Who is a mighty one, like unto thee, O Jah ?
And thy faithfulness is round about thee.

Thou rulest the pride of the sea :
When the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.
Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain ;
Thou hast scattered thine enemies with the arm of thy
strength.

The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine :
The world and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded
them.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

The north and the south, thou hast created them :
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in thy name.

Thou hast a mighty arm :
Strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.
Righteousness and judgment are the foundation of thy
throne :
Mercy and truth go before thy face.

Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound :
They walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance.
In thy name do they rejoice all the day :
And in thy righteousness are they exalted.

For thou art the glory of their strength :
And in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
For our shield belongeth unto the Lord ;
And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

When thou spakest in vision to thy saints,
And saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty ;
I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant ;
With my holy oil have I anointed him :
With whom my hand shall be established ;
Mine arm also shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not exact upon him ;
Nor the son of wickedness afflict him.
And I will beat down his adversaries before him,
And smite them that hate him.

But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him ;
And in my name shall his horn be exalted.

I will set his hand also on the sea,
And his right hand on the rivers.

He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father,

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

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Righteousness and judgment are the foundation of thy
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Mercy and truth go before thy face.

Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound :
They walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance.
In thy name do they rejoice all the day :
And in thy righteousness are they exalted.

For thou art the glory of their strength :
And in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
For our shield belongeth unto the Lord ;
And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Then thou spakest in vision to thy saints,
And saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty ;
I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant ;
With my holy oil have I anointed him :
With whom my hand shall be established ;
Mine arm also shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not exact upon him ;
Nor the son of wickedness afflict him.
And I will beat down his adversaries before him,
And smite them that hate him.

But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him ;
And in my name shall his horn be exalted.

I will set his hand also on the sea,
And his right hand on the rivers.

He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

My God, and the rock of my salvation.

I also will make him my firstborn,
The highest of the kings of the earth.

My mercy will I keep for him for evermore,
And my covenant shall stand fast with him.

His seed also will I make to endure for ever,
And his throne as the days of heaven.

If his children forsake my law,
And walk not in my judgments ;
If they break my statutes,
And keep not my commandments ;

Then will I visit their transgression with the rod,
And their iniquity with stripes.

But my mercy will I not utterly take from him,
Nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

My covenant will I not break,
Nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

Once have I sworn by my holiness ;
I will not lie unto David ;

His seed shall endure forever,
And his throne as the sun before me.

It shall be established for ever as the moon,
And as the faithful witness in the sky.

But thou hast cast off and rejected,
Thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.

Thou hast abhorred the covenant of thy servant :
Thou hast profaned his crown even to the ground.

Thou hast broken down all his hedges ;
Thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.

All that pass by the way spoil him :
He is become a reproach to his neighbours.

Thou hast exalted the right hand of his adversaries ;

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

Thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.

**Yea, thou turnest back the edge of his sword,
And hast not made him to stand in the battle.**

Thou hast made his brightness to cease,

And cast his throne down to the ground.

The days of his youth hast thou shortened :

Thou hast covered him with shame.

How long, O Lord, wilt thou hide thyself for ever ?

How long shall thy wrath burn like fire ?

O remember how short my time is :

For what vanity hast thou created all the children of men !

What man is he that shall live and not see death,

That shall deliver his soul from the power of Sheol ?

L o r d , where are thy former mercies,

Which thou swearest unto David in thy faithfulness ?

Remember, L o r d , the reproach of thy servants ;

How I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the
mighty peoples ;

Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O Lord,

**Wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine
anointed.**

SEVENTY-FIRST SELECTION.

The Lord Saves His Anointed.

Ps. 20. The Lord answer thee in the day of trouble ;

The name of the God of Jacob set thee up on high ;

Send thee help from the sanctuary,

And strengthen thee out of Zion ;

Remember all thy offerings,

And accept thy burnt sacrifice ;

Grant thee thy heart's desire,

And fulfill all thy counsel.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

We will triumph in thy salvation,
And in the name of our God we will set up our banners:
The Lord fulfill all thy petitions.

Now know I that the Lord saveth his anointed ;
He will answer him from his holy heaven
With the saving strength of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots and some in horses :
But we will make mention of the name of the Lord our
God.

They are bowed down and fallen :
But we are risen, and stand upright.
Save, Lord :
Let the King answer us when we call.

Ps. 21. The king shall joy in thy strength, O Lord ;
And in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice !
Thou hast given him his heart's desire,
And hast not withholden the request of his lips.

For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness :
Thou settest a crown of fine gold on his head.
He asked life of thee, thou gavest it him ;
Even length of days for ever and ever.

His glory is great in thy salvation :
Honor and majesty dost thou lay upon him.
For thou makest him most blessed for ever :
Thou makest him glad with joy in thy presence.

For the king trusteth in the Lord,
And through the lovingkindness of the Most High he shall
not be moved.

Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies :
Thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee.

Thou shalt make them as a fiery furnace in the time of
thine anger.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

The Lord shall swallow them up in his wrath,
And the fire shall devour them.

Their fruit shalt thou destroy from the earth,
And their seed from among the children of men.

For they intended evil against thee :
They imagined a device, which they are not able to perform.

For thou shalt make them turn their back,
Thou shalt make ready with thy bowstrings against the
face of them.

Be thou exalted, O Lord, in thy strength :
So will we sing and praise thy power.

SEVENTY-SECOND SELECTION.

Resistance Vain.

Ps. 110. The Lord saith unto my lord, Sit thou at my
right hand,
Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

The Lord shall send forth the rod of thy strength out of
Zion :

Rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

Thy people offer themselves willingly in the day of thy
power :

In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the
morning, thou hast the dew of thy youth.

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent,
Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Lord at thy right hand
Shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall judge among the nations,
He shall fill the places with dead bodies ;

He shall strike through the head in many countries.

He shall drink of the brook in the way :
Therefore shall he lift up the head.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Ps. 2. Why do the nations rage,
And the peoples imagine a vain thing ?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,
Against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying,
Let us break their bands asunder,
And cast away their cords from us.

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh :
The Lord shall have them in derision.
Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath,
And vex them in his sore displeasure :
Yet I have set my king
Upon my holy hill of Zion.

I will tell of the decree :
The Lord said unto me, Thou art my son ;
This day have I begotten thee.
Ask of me, and I will give thee the nations for thine inheritance,
And the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.
Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron ;
Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Now therefore be wise, O ye kings :
Be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
Serve the Lord with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.
Kiss the son, lest he be angry, and ye perish in the way,
For his wrath will soon be kindled.
Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

SEVENTY-THIRD SELECTION.

Glories of the King.

Ps. 45. My heart overfloweth with a goodly matter :
I speak the things which I have made touching the king :
My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM

Thou art fairer than the children of men ;
Grace is poured into thy lips :
Therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O mighty one,
Thy glory and thy majesty.
And in thy majesty ride on prosperously,
Because of truth and meekness and righteousness :
And thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

Thine arrows are sharp ;
The peoples fall under thee :
They are in the heart of the king's enemies.

Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever :
A sceptre of equity is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated wickedness :
Therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee
With the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia ;
Out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made thee
glad.

Kings' daughters are among thy honorable women :
At thy right hand doth stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine
ear ;

Forget also thine own people, and thy father's house ;
So shall the king desire thy beauty :
For he is thy Lord ; and worship thou him.

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift ;
Even the rich among the people shall intreat thy favor.

The king's daughter within the palace is all glorious :
Her clothing is inwrought with gold.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

She shall be led unto the king in broidered work :
The virgins her companions that follow her
Shall be brought unto thee.

With gladness and rejoicing shall they be led:
They shall enter into the king's palace.

Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children,
Whom thou shalt make princes in all the earth.

I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations :

Therefore shall the peoples give thee thanks for ever and ever.

SEVENTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

Deliverance to the Oppressed.

Ps. 72. Give the king thy judgments, O God,
And thy righteousness unto the king's son.
He shall judge thy people with righteousness,
And thy poor with judgment.

The mountains shall bring peace to the people,
And the hills, in righteousness.

He shall judge the poor of the people,
He shall save the children of the needy,
And shall break in pieces the oppressor.

They shall fear thee while the sun endureth,
And so long as the moon, throughout all generations.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass :
As showers that water the earth.

In his days shall the righteous flourish ;
And abundance of peace, till the moon be no more.

He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,
And from the River unto the ends of the earth.

They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him;
And his enemies shall lick the dust.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents.

The kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

Yea, all kings shall fall down before him :

All nations shall serve him.

For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth ;
And the poor, that hath no helper.

He shall have pity on the poor and needy,

And the souls of the needy he shall save.

He shall redeem their soul from oppression and violence;
And precious shall their blood be in his sight :

And they shall live ; and to him shall be given of the gold
of Sheba :

And men shall pray for him continually ;

They shall bless him all the day long.

There shall be abundance of corn in the earth upon the
top of the mountains ;

The fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon :

And they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

His name shall endure for ever ;

His name shall be continued as long as the sun :

And men shall be blessed in him ;

All nations shall call him happy.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
Who only doeth wondrous things :

And blessed be his glorious name for ever ;

And let the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Amen, and Amen.

SEVENTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

A Prophecy of Righteousness and Peace.

Isa 11. And there shall come forth a shoot out of the
stock of Jesse,

And a branch out of his roots shall bear fruit :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the
spirit of wisdom and understanding,

The spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge
and of the fear of the Lord ;

And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord : and
he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,
neither reprove after the hearing of his ears :

But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and re-
prove with equity for the meek of the earth :

And he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the
wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and
faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard
shall lie down with the kid ;

And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together ;
and a little child shall lead them.

And the cow and the bear shall feed ; their young ones
shall lie down together : and the lion shall eat
straw like the ox.

And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the basi-
lisk's den.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy moun-
tain :

For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the root of
Jesse, which standeth for an ensign of the peo-
ples, unto him shall the nations seek ;

And his resting place shall be glorious.

Isa. 12. And in that day thou shalt say, I will give
thanks unto thee, O Lord ;

For though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is
turned away, and thou comfortest me.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

Behold, God is my salvation ; I will trust, and will not
be afraid :

For the Lord Jehovah is my strength and song ; and he is
become my salvation.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells
of salvation. And in that day shall ye say,
Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name,
Declare his doings among the peoples, make mention that
his name is exalted.

Sing unto the Lord ; for he hath done excellent things:
let this be known in all the earth.

Cry aloud and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion : for great is
the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

SEVENTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

Unto Us a Child is Born.

Isa. 9. The people that walked in darkness have seen
a great light :

They that dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon
them hath the light shined.

Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased
their joy :

They joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, as
men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

For the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoul-
der, the rod of his oppressor, thou hast broken
as in the day of Midian.

For all the armor of the armed man in the tumult, and
the garments rolled in blood, shall even be for burn-
ing, for fuel of fire.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given ; and
the government shall be upon his shoulder :

And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there
shall be no end, upon the throne of David,
and upon his kingdom,

To establish it, and to uphold it with judgment and with
righteousness from henceforth even for ever. The
zeal of the Lord of hosts shall perform this.

Isa. 42. Behold my servant, whom I uphold; my
chosen, in whom my soul delighteth:

I have put my spirit upon him; he shall bring forth judgment
to the Gentiles.

He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be
heard in the street.

A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax
shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment in
truth.

He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set
judgment in the earth;

And the isles shall wait for his law.

Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens,
and stretched them forth; he that spread
abroad the earth and that which cometh out
of it;

He that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit
to them that walk therein:

I the Lord have called thee in 'righteousness, and will
hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give
thee for a covenant of the people, for a light
of the Gentiles;

To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from
the dungeon, and them that sit in darkness out of the
prison house.

I am the Lord; that is my name: and my glory will I
not give to another, neither my praise unto
graven images.

Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new
things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell
you of them.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

Good Tidings.

Isa. 40. Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned; that she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The voice of one that crieth, Prepare ye in the wilderness the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a high way for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low :

And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain :

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together : for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The voice of one saying, Cry. And one said, What shall I cry ?

All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field :

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth ; because the breath of the Lord bloweth upon it : surely the people is grass.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth : but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain ; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength ;

Lift it up, be not afraid ; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God !

Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm shall rule for him :

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompence before him.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, he shall gather the lambs in his arm,

And carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that give suck.

Isa. 35. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad ; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing ;

The glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon :

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the excellency of our God.

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not ; behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompence of God ; he will come and save you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing :

For in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

And the glowing sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water :

In the habitation of jackals, where they lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness ; the unclean shall not pass over it ; but it shall be for those : the wayfaring men, yea fools, shall not err therein.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast go up thereon, they shall not be found there ;

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

But the redeemed shall walk there :

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come
with singing unto Zion ; and everlasting joy
shall be upon their heads :

**They shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sigh-
ing shall flee away.**

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

Glory of the Universal Kingdom.

Is. 60. Arise, shine ; for thy light is come, and the
glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

**For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross
darkness the peoples :**

But the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall
be seen upon thee.

**And nations shall come to thy light, and kings to the
brightness of thy rising.**

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see : they all gather
themselves together, they come to thee :

**Thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be
carried in the arms.**

Then thou shalt see and be lightened, and thine heart
shall tremble and be enlarged ;

**Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned unto thee,
the wealth of the nations shall come unto thee.**

The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the drome-
daries of Midian and Ephah ; they all shall
come from Sheba :

**They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall pro-
claim the praises of the Lord.**

All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto
thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto
thee :

**They shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I
will glorify the house of my glory.**

Who are these that fly as a cloud,
And as the doves to their windows ?

Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them,

For the name of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

And strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee :

For in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favor have I had mercy on thee.

Thy gates also shall be open continually ; they shall not be shut day nor night ;

That men may bring unto thee the wealth of the nations and their kings led with them.

For that nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish :

Yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine, and the box tree together ; to beautify the place of my sanctuary,

And I will make the place of my feet glorious.

And the sons of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee ; and all they that despise thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet ;

And they shall call thee The city of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man passed through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

Thou shalt also suck the milk of the nations, and shalt suck the breast of kings : and thou shalt know that I the Lord am thy saviour, and thy redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

THE KING AND THE KINGDOM.

For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron ;
I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors righteousness.

Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, desolation nor destruction within thy borders ;
But thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

The sun shall be no more thy light by day ; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee :
But the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

Thy sun shall no more go down, neither shall thy moon withdraw itself :
For the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

Thy people also shall be all righteous, they shall inherit the land for ever ;
The branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

The little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation :
I the Lord will hasten it in its time.

SEVENTY-NINTH SELECTION.

The Kingdom Come.

Rev. 7. After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of every nation, and of all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes, and palms in their hands ;

And they cry with a great voice, saying, Salvation unto our God which sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

And all the angels were standing round about the throne, and about the elders and the four living creatures ;

And they fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, Amen : Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, 'These which are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they ?

And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest.

And he said to me, These are they which come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore are they before the throne of God ; and they serve him day and night in his temple : And he that sitteth on the throne shall spread his tabernacle over them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more ; neither shall the sun strike upon them, nor any heat :

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life : and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Rev. 11. And the seventh angel sounded ; and there followed great voices in heaven,

And they said, The kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ : and he shall reign for ever and ever.

And the four and twenty elders, which sit before God on their thrones, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, which art and which wast ; because thou hast taken thy great power, and didst reign.

GENERAL PRAISE.

EIGHTIETH SELECTION.

God in Zion.

Ps. 87. His foundation is in the holy mountains.
The Lord loveth the gates of Zion
More than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of thee,
O city of God.

I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon as among
them that know me :
Behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia ;
This one was born there.

Yea, of Zion it shall be said, This one and that one was
born in her ;
And the Most High himself shall establish her.

The Lord shall count, when he writeth up the peoples,
This one was born there.

They that sing as well as they that dance shall say,
All my fountains are in thee.

Ps. 24. The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof ;
The world, and they that dwell therein.

For he hath founded it upon the seas,
And established it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord ?
And who shall stand in his holy place ?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart ;
Who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity,
And hath not sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive a blessing from the Lord,
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of them that seek after him,
That seek thy face, O God of Jacob.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates ;
And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors :
 And the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory ?

**The Lord strong and mighty,
 The Lord mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O ye gates ;
Yea, lift them up, ye everlasting doors :
 And the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory ?

**The Lord of hosts,
 He is the King of glory.**

Ps. 95. O come, let us sing unto the Lord :
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
 **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving,
 Let us make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God,
 And a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the deep places of the earth ;
The heights of the mountains are his also.
 **The sea is his, and he made it ;
 And his hands formed the dry land.**

O come, let us worship and bow down ;
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker :
 **For he is our God,
 And we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his
 hand.**

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EIGHTY-FIRST SELECTION.

God's Universal Sway

Ps. 47. O clap your hands all ye peoples ;

GENERAL PRAISE.

Shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

For the Lord Most High is terrible ;
He is a great King over all the earth.

He shall subdue the peoples under us,
And the nations under our feet.

He shall choose our inheritance for us,
The excellency of Jacob whom he loved.

God is gone up with a shout,
The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises :
Sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth :
Sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the nations :
God sitteth upon his holy throne.

The princes of the peoples are gathered together
To be the people of the God of Abraham :
For the shields of the earth belong unto God ;
He is greatly exalted.

Ps. 96. O sing unto the Lord a new song :
Sing unto the Lord, all the earth.
Sing unto the Lord, bless his name ;
Show forth his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,
His marvellous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and highly to be praised :
He is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols :
But the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him :
Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

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RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Give unto the Lord, ye kindreds of the peoples,
Give unto the Lord glory and strength.

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name :
Bring an offering, and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness :
Tremble before him, all the earth.

Say among the nations, the Lord reigneth :
The world also is stablished that it cannot be moved :
He shall judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice ;
Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof ;
Let the field exult, and all that is therein ;
Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy ;

Before the Lord, for he cometh ;
For he cometh to judge the earth :
He shall judge the world with righteousness,
And the peoples with his truth.

EIGHTY-SECOND SELECTION.

The Lord our God is Holy.

Ps. 99. The Lord reigneth ; let the peoples tremble :
He sitteth upon the chernim ; let the earth be moved.

The Lord is great in Zion ;
And he is high above all the peoples.

Let them praise thy great and terrible name :
Holy is he.

The king's strength also loveth judgment ;
Thou dost establish equity,
Thou executest judgment and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt ye the Lord our God,
And worship at his footstool :
Holy is he.

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GENERAL PRAISE.

Moses and Aaron among his priests,
And Samuel among them that call upon his name ;
They called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spake unto them in the pillar of cloud :

They kept his testimonies, and the statute that he gave
them.

Thou answeredst them, O Lord our God :

Thou wast a God that forgavest them,

Though thou tookest vengeance of their doings.

Exalt ye the Lord our God,
And worship at his holy hill ;

For the Lord our God is holy.

Ps. 98. O sing unto the Lord a new song ;
For he hath done marvellous things :

His right hand, and his holy arm, hath wrought salvation
for him.

The Lord hath made known his salvation :

His righteousness hath he openly showed in the sight of
the nations.

He hath remembered his mercy and his faithfulness
toward the house of Israel :

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our
God.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth :

Break forth and sing for joy, yea, sing praises.

Sing praises unto the Lord with the harp ;
With the harp and the voice of melody.

With trumpets and sound of cornet

Make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof ;
The world, and they that dwell therein ;

Let the floods clap their hands ;

Let the hills sing for joy together

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Before the Lord, for he cometh to judge the earth :
He shall judge the world with righteousness,
And the peoples with equity.

EIGHTY-THIRD SELECTION.

Thankfulness.

Ps. 111. Praise ye the Lord.

I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart,
In the council of the upright, and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great,
Sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

His work is honour and majesty :
And his righteousness endureth for ever.

He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered :
The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He hath given meat unto them that fear him :
He will ever be mindful of his covenant.

He hath shewed his people the power of his works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are truth and judgment ;
All his precepts are sure.

They are established for ever and ever,
They are done in truth and uprightness.

He hath sent redemption unto his people ;
He hath commanded his covenant for ever :

Holy and reverend is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom ;
A good understanding have all they that do thereafter :
His praise endureth for ever.

Ps. 66. Make a joyful noise unto God, all the earth :
Sing forth the glory of his name :
Make his praise glorious.

Say unto God, How terrible are thy works !

GENERAL PRAISE.

Through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies
submit themselves unto thee.

All the earth shall worship thee,

And shall sing unto thee ;

They shall sing to thy name.

Come, and see the works of God ;

He is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.

He turned the sea into dry land :

They went through the river on foot :

There did we rejoice in him.

He ruleth by his might for ever ;

His eyes observe the nations :

Let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

O bless our God, ye peoples,

And make the voice of his praise to be heard :

Which holdeth our soul in life,

And suffereth not our feet to be moved.

For thou, O God, hast proved us :

Thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.

Thou broughtest us into the net ;

Thou layedst a sore burden upon our loins.

Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads ;

We went through fire and through water ;

But thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

I will come into thy house with burnt offerings,

I will pay thee my vows,

Which my lips have uttered,

And my mouth hath spoken, when I was in distress.

I will offer unto thee burnt offerings of fatlings,

With the incense of rams ;

I will offer bullocks with goats.

Come, and hear, all ye that fear God,

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

And I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

I cried unto him with my mouth,

And he was extolled with my tongue.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear :

But verily God hath heard ;

He hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God,

Which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy
from me.

EIGHTY-FOURTH SELECTION.

Greatness and Goodness of God.

Ps. 145. I will extol thee, my God, O King ;

And I will bless thy name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless thee ;

And I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised ;

And his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall land thy works to another,

And shall declare thy mighty acts.

Of the glorious majesty of thine honor,

And of thy wondrous works, will I meditate.

And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts ;

And I will declare thy greatness.

They shall utter the memory of thy great goodness,

And shall sing of thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion ;

Slow to anger, and of great mercy.

The Lord is good to all ;

And his tender mercies are over all his works.

All thy works shall give thanks unto thee, O Lord ;

And thy saints shall bless thee.

They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom,

And talk of thy power ;

GENERAL PRAISE.

To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts,
And the glory of the majesty of his kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

The Lord upholdeth all that fall,
And raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon thee ;
And thou givest them their meat in due season.
Thou openest thine hand,
And satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways,
And gracious in all his works.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him,
To all that call upon him in truth.
He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him ;
He also will hear their cry, and will save them.

The Lord preserveth all them that love him ;
But all the wicked will he destroy.
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord ;
And let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Ps. 150. Praise ye the Lord.
Praise God in his sanctuary :
Praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts :
Praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet :
Praise him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise him with the timbrel and dance :
Praise him with stringed instruments and the pipe.

Praise him upon the loud cymbals :
Praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.
Praise ye the Lord.

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

EIGHTY-FIFTH SELECTION.

By the United Assembly of the Saints.

Ps. 133. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell together in unity !

It is like the precious oil upon the head,
That ran down upon the beard,
Even Aaron's beard ;
That came down upon the skirt of his garments ;

Like the dew of Hermon,
That cometh down upon the mountains of Zion :
For there the Lord commanded the blessing,
Even life for evermore.

Ps. 146. Praise ye the Lord.
Praise the Lord, O my soul.

While I live will I praise the Lord :
I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Put not your trust in princes,
Nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.
His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth ;
In that very day his thoughts perish.

Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God :

Which made heaven and earth,
The sea, and all that in them is :

Which keepeth truth for ever :
Which executeth judgment for the oppressed ;
Which giveth food to the hungry :

The Lord looseth the prisoners ;
The Lord openeth the eyes of the blind ;

The Lord raiseth up them that are bowed down ;
The Lord loveth the righteous ;

The Lord preserveth the strangers ;

GENERAL PRAISE.

He upholdeth the fatherless and widow ;
But the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.
The Lord shall reign for ever,
Thy God, O Zion, unto all generations.
Praise ye the Lord.

Ps. 149. Praise ye the Lord.
Sing unto the Lord a new song,
And his praise in the assembly of the saints.
Let Israel rejoice in him that made him :
Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
Let them praise his name in the dance :
Let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.
For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people :
He will beautify the meek with salvation.
Praise ye the Lord.

EIGHTY-SIXTH SELECTION.

Universal Call to Praise.

Ps. 147. Praise ye the Lord ;
For it is good to sing praises unto our God ;
For it is pleasant, and praise is comely.
The Lord doth build up Jerusalem ;
He gathereth together the outcasts of Israel.
He healeth the broken in heart,
And bindeth up their wounds.
He telleth the number of the stars ;
He giveth them all their names.
Great is our Lord, and mighty in power ;
His understanding is infinite.
The Lord upholdeth the meek :
He bringeth the wicked down to the ground.
Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving ;

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Sing praises upon the harp unto our God :

Who covereth the heaven with clouds,
Who prepareth rain for the earth,
Who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.

**He giveth to the beast his food,
And to the young ravens which cry.**

He delighteth not in the strength of the horse :
He taketh no pleasure in the legs of a man.

**The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him,
In those that hope in his mercy.**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem ;

Praise thy God, O Zion.

For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates ;
He hath blessed thy children within thee.

**He maketh peace in thy borders ;
He filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.**

He sendeth out his commandment upon earth ;

His word runneth very swiftly.

He giveth snow like wool ;

He scattereth the hoar frost like ashes.

He casteth forth his ice like morsels :

Who can stand before his cold ?

He sendeth out his word, and melteth them :

He causeth his wind to blow, and the waters flow.

He showeth his word unto Jacob,

His statutes and his judgments unto Israel.

He hath not dealt so with any nation :

And as for his judgments, they have not known them.

Praise ye the Lord.

Ps. 148. Praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord from the heavens :

Praise him in the heights.

Praise ye him, all his angels :

Praise ye him, all his host.

GENERAL PRAISE.

**Praise ye him, sun and moon !
Praise him, all ye stars of light.**

Praise him, ye heavens of heavens,
And ye waters that be above the heavens.

**Let them praise the name of the Lord :
For he commanded, and they were created.**

He hath also stablished them for ever and ever :
He hath made a decree which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
Ye dragons, and all deeps :
**Fire and hail, snow and vapor ;
Stormy wind, fulfilling his word :**

Mountains and all hills ;
Fruitful trees and all cedars :
**Beasts and all cattle ;
Creeping things and flying fowl :**

Kings of the earth and all peoples ;
Princes and all judges of the earth :
**Both young men and maidens ;
Old men and children :**

Let them praise the name of the Lord ;
For his name alone is exalted :
His glory is above the earth and heaven.

And he hath lifted up the horn of his people,
The praise of all his saints ;
**Even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him.
Praise ye the Lord.**

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SELECTION.

For Ordinations and Dedications.

Ps. 122. I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go unto the house of the Lord. .
**Our feet are standing
Within thy gates, O Jernsalem ;**

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

Jerusalem, that art builded
As a city that is compact together :
 **Whither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord,
 For a testimony unto Israel,
 To give thanks unto the name of the Lord.**

For there are set thrones for judgment,
 The thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
They shall prosper that love thee.
 **Peace be within thy walls,
 And prosperity within thy palaces.**

For my brethren and companions' sakes,
I will now say, Peace be within thee.
 **For the sake of the house of the Lord our God
 I will seek thy good.**

Ps. 132. Lord, remember for David
All his affliction ;
 **How he sware unto the Lord,
 And vowed unto the Mighty One of Jacob :**

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house,
Nor go up into my bed ;
 **I will not give sleep to mine eyes,
 Or slumber to mine eyelids ;**

Until I find out a place for the Lord,
 A tabernacle for the Mighty One of Jacob.

Lo, we heard of it in Ephrathah :
We found it in the field of the wood.
 **We will go into his tabernacles ;
 We will worship at his footstool.**

Arise, O Lord, into thy resting place ;
 Thou, and the ark of thy strength.

GENERAL PRAISE.

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness ;
And let thy saints shout for joy.

For thy servant David's sake

Turn not away the face of thine anointed.

The Lord hath sworn unto David in truth ;
He will not turn from it :
Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

If thy children will keep my covenant

And my testimony that I shall teach them,

Their children also shall sit upon thy throne for evermore.

For the Lord hath chosen Zion ;
He hath desired it for his habitation.

This is my resting place for ever :

Here will I dwell ; for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provision :
I will satisfy her poor with bread.

Her priests also will I clothe with salvation :

And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

There will I make the horn of David to bud :
I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

His enemies will I clothe with shame :

But upon himself shall his crown flourish.

Ps. 100. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye
lands.

Serve the Lord with gladness :

Come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord he is God :
It is he that hath made us, and we are his ;

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise :

Give thanks unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good ; his mercy endureth for ever ;
And his faithfulness unto all generations.

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SELECTION.

The Ten Commandments.

In place of the congregation the choir can render the responses if thought best. In this way the Ten Commandments may be introduced as an antiphon in the evening service.

God spake all these words, saying,

I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the
land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep
this law.

Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor
the likeness of any form that is in heaven
above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is
in the water under the earth : thou shalt not
bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them :
for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the
children, upon the third and upon the fourth
generation of them that hate me ; and shew-
ing mercy unto thousands, of them that love
me and keep my commandments.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep
this law.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in
vain ; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless
that taketh his name in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep
this law.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days
shalt thou labor, and do all thy work : but the
seventh day is a Sabbath unto the Lord thy
God : in it thou shalt not do any work, thou,
nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant,

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates : for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother : that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Then the Minister may say :

Hear also what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy

RESPONSIVE READINGS.

neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hangeth the whole law, and the prophets.
**I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes,
For ever, even unto the end.—Ps. 119 : 112.**

EIGHTY-NINTH SELECTION.

The Beatitudes.

And seeing the multitudes, he went up into the mountain : and when he had sat down, his disciples came unto him : and he opened his mouth and taught them, saying,

Blessed are the poor in spirit :

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn :

For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek :

For they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness :

For they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful :

For they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart :

For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers :

For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness' sake :

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye when men shall reproach you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad : for great is your reward in heaven : for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

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